**Transit agencies ready to welcome you back**

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown how important public transportation is to keep people moving and communities connected. Since the beginning, buses and trains have provided transportation to healthcare professionals, first responders, service industry professionals, as well as other essential workers.

While transit ridership has been significantly impacted by the pandemic-related changes in commuting patterns, North Texas’ three major public transportation providers are ready to welcome riders back.

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) and Trinity Metro have been following strict cleaning protocols since the pandemic began, and masks are still required on public transit vehicles. There are also transparent dividers between drivers and riders to promote health and safety.

The region’s transit providers signed on to the American Public Transit Association’s “Health and Safety Commitments Program,” signifying their pledge to instill confidence in customers and to protect their health and safety.

To reassure the community even further, transit providers are working every day to keep their riders and employees safe and informed. Riders are asked to share the responsibility by doing things everyone has become accustomed to since March 2020.

Wear a mask.

Wash or sanitize your hands.

Practice social distancing on board.

Do not ride when you are ill.

Riders are encouraged to have their fare ready to go when boarding. They may pay through the DART-maintained GoPass app, which riders of all three transit agencies are able to use.  Riders of DART buses, light rail and Dallas Streetcar vehicles are now also able to pay with a contactless credit card, debit card, or a payment-enabled mobile phone or wearable device. Other options are Trinity Metro’s tap card for local daily, weekly, and monthly tickets and DART’s GoPass tap card.