



3/30/2020

Statement from COLTS' Executive Director Bob Fiume About Service During Stay At Home Order

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank our passengers for their patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. We are truly in uncharted territory.

COLTS has developed a multi-faceted plan to balance the seriousness of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus), the Stay At Home order issued March 27 by Governor Tom Wolf, and our duty to provide public transportation to people needing to make essential trips.

The first part of our service plan is providing compressed service on only 11 of our regular fixed routes. The routes and their schedules are listed on our web site. We will continue to provide free rides and to expect that passengers will only ride for life-sustaining purposes including work, grocery stores, and medical trips.

We realize passengers need to make essential trips for employment, food access, medical, and pharmacy trips that are not on the 11 routes we are running. As such, the second part of our service plan is Demand Response. This means that passengers can call COLTS to request service, as directed on our web site. Again, I must state that these trips are being provided for life-essential purposes only and that people must give 24 hours' advance notice.

The health and welfare of our community remains our top priority. It is of utmost importance to COLTS to balance our service levels with our duty to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Public transportation is considered an essential service; passengers rely on us to get them to jobs, to get groceries, and to go to the doctor or pharmacy. We are doing our best to provide them with service they need. However, it cannot be stated enough that anyone who does not need to go out should stay at home.

COLTS remains vigilant in the sanitizing of its buses and vans. I have no doubt that we will get through this as long as we all do our part to help flatten the curve of the virus."