

COVID COMMUTING

PUBLIC TRANSIT

We know public transit is a key mode of travel for many essential workers, and for essential errands. “In a pandemic, we’re all transit dependent” (Bloomberg). Transit is also key to ensuring our cities are healthy, resilient and sustainable, so it’s important to ensure travel is as safe as possible through all stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

What are the risks?

Sharing space with people from outside your household will always carry a risk for transmission. If you do not have to travel, you should not. If you must travel and are concerned about Public Transit, Scientific American noted in June that few outbreaks globally have been linked to public transit. In The Atlantic, Janette Sadik-Khan and Seth Solomonow noted:

“The bigger health risk may not ultimately be the bus or subway car where you spend half an hour with a group of strangers than the places that you are traveling to and from. Researchers still have much to learn. What’s becoming clear is that, with appropriate precautions, transit riders can feel comfortable swiping their MetroCards again and agencies can start building the post-pandemic transit systems that cities and their residents want to see.”
(Fear of Public Transit Got Ahead of the Evidence)

Public Transit Risk Reduction

- Wash your hands before you depart, and upon arrival at your destination
- Wear a mask at all times (avoid eating or drinking)
- Avoid touching your face and other surfaces
- Keep your distance from other riders
 - Try to travel outside of peak times if possible



GO MANITOBA

Resources

www.winnipegtransit.com/en/rider-guide/news/winnipeg-transit-response-to-covid-19/
www.scientificamerican.com/article/there-is-little-evidence-that-mass-transit-poses-a-risk-of-coronavirus-outbreaks/
www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/06/fear-transit-bad-cities/612979/
www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-04-07/in-a-pandemic-we-re-all-transit-dependent