



City of Gainesville

Office of the City Manager

City Manager Memorandum No. 210012

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Commission

From: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

Date: February 24, 2021

Re: **Face Covering Requirement on Public Transit Vehicles**

In accordance with guidelines put out by the City of Gainesville, Alachua County, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), RTS requires that all neighbors must wear facial coverings (unless a legal exception or exemption is applicable) while on RTS vehicles. The FTA has been working closely with the CDC and other federal agencies to provide guidance to the public transportation industry in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. On Thursday, February 18, 2021, the FTA posted new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the implementation and applicability of the CDC Order for public transit; this document will be included as an attachment to this memo for your information.

RTS practice:

- All neighbors are required to wear a mask while they are on an RTS vehicle (including boarding and disembarking) unless a legal exception or exemption is applicable.
- RTS provides free masks on all vehicles.
- Boarding is denied if a neighbor refuses to abide by the mask requirement.
- Neighbors on board any RTS vehicle should maintain social distancing and continue to wear the mask the entire time.
- Non-compliant passengers are informed of the mask requirement and given an opportunity to comply. If they do not comply, they are asked to exit the vehicle by RTS Transit Operator or Supervisor, and if necessary GPD is contacted for assistance.

Attachments:

1. Masks - Frequently Asked Questions - US Department of Transportation
2. County Mask Poster

cc: Philip Mann, Interim Assistant City Manager
 Deborah Bowie, Assistant City Manager
 Fred Murry, Assistant City Manager
 Malisa McCreedy, Transportation & Mobility Director
 Jesus Gomez, Transit Director