



A partnership of the cities of Claremont, La Verne, Pomona and San Dimas

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April 14, 2021

**AGENDA  
ITEM #5**

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Pomona Valley Transportation Authority

From: Diana Mendez, Mobility Manager

**Subject: COVID Response Update/Resumption of Fare Collections**

**Recommended Action:** 1. Receive and file COVID Response Update, 2. Approve the Resumption of Fare Collection for All PVRTA Services Effective July 1.

**COVID Safety Measures**

The Pomona Valley Transportation Authority in concert with its contractors has taken an array of safety precautions since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. PVRTA has procured personal protective equipment (PPE) for contractor personnel. Communication between PVRTA and neighboring agencies is ongoing to share information, safety measures, advice, and suggestions. The websites for the CDC and WHO were constantly monitored along with the local health departments for updates. The following is a breakdown of the measures PVRTA has taken:

- *Daily sanitation of all vehicles*
- *Elimination of fares on Get About and Claremont Dial A Ride*
- *Temperature checks of personnel*
- *Masks and gloves were distributed to all drivers and office staff*
- *Installation of hand sanitizer dispensers in all vehicles*
- *Drivers were provided with disinfectant*
- *Prevention measures were displayed in the vehicles and in the office*
- *Limited share rides (eliminated for small vehicles)*
- *Seats were marked off in larger vehicles to space out riders*
- *Early vaccine access information was shared with employees*
- *Time off given to employees for vaccine appointments*
- *Ticket sales were done by appointment only*
- *Masks continue to be required for staff and riders*

Along with these measures PVTA collaborated with cities and neighboring agencies on Covid-19 and vaccine related issues. Some of the agencies PVTA has worked with are Pomona Unified, Cal Poly Pomona, the office of supervisor Hilda Solis, Pomona Valley America's Job Center, PCS Family Services, and Pomona Fairplex.

### **PVTA Support for Community Vaccination Efforts**

- A. ***Vaccinations for Drivers & Coordination with Foothill Transit*** - Los Angeles County opened vaccine eligibility for transit workers the week of March 15, 2021. Foothill Transit reached out to PVTA to offer vaccine appointments for its employees. As of March 30, 2021, four (4) PVTA drivers and one (1) dispatcher have received their first vaccine dose.
- B. **Access to Pomona Fairplex Mega Pod Vaccination site** – With the assistance of organizations like the Pomona Fairplex, PVTA was able to establish a connection with the office of supervisor Hilda Solis and the Public Health department to ensure that equitable access for people with disabilities and seniors was available at the Pomona Fairplex vaccination megapod. The Office of Emergency Management for the County of Los Angeles gave PVTA a tour and breakdown of the Fairplex Mega Pod Vaccination site. PVTA was able to ensure that accommodations were made for public transportation and other transit such as Uber and Lyft and taxis had a dedicated lane to enter and exit the site with priority.
- C. **Access to Cal Poly Pomona Vaccination Site** – Cal Poly arranged a site visit for PVTA and the City of Pomona to tour the vaccination site to provide a more convenient experience for riders. The Office of Administrative Affairs for Cal Poly Pomona and PVTA maintain a line of communication to address any issues and to share updates.
- D. **Collaboration with Pomona Parks (transporting seniors)** – The City of Pomona in collaboration with Kaiser Permanente and Cal Poly Pomona began booking vaccine appointments for Pomona Senior Program participants. PVTA is providing free transportation to and from any vaccine sites. Riders not normally eligible for PVTA services are granted temporary eligibility for their rides to vaccine sites.
- E. **Pomona Covid-19 Action Committee**-PVTA has been working through the committee to assist in addressing community needs resulting from COVID-19 including equitable access to the vaccine and basic needs for community children, seniors, and people with disabilities. PVTA's has been in contact with this committee to ensure basic transportation needs are made available to the community with PVTA as a resource.

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**Resumption of Fare Collection**

One of the measures that took effect in March of 2020 was the elimination of fares on its Get About and Claremont Dial A Ride services. Staff is recommending that fare collection resume July 1, 2021. This recommendation is made based on vaccine accessibility, the decrease in Covid-19 cases, and Los Angeles County entering a less restrictive tier set by the State of California.