



## **PVTA DRIVERS FACE COVID-19 FEARS HEAD ON EVERYDAY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 9, 2020

Springfield, Mass. – The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) wants to remind passengers that they should be staying home unless they are essential workers or traveling for life-sustaining reasons. PVTA is asking anyone who must travel for an essential trip to wear a medical or cloth mask to cover their mouth and nose while on-board public transit to help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

PVTA provides a vital transportation service to the public. PVTA has instituted several measures over the last month to help limit the spread of the virus, including reducing service to essential trips only, recommending all passengers wear a mask, having passengers board using the rear doors to limit exposure and cleaning and disinfecting vehicles daily before being placed into service.

Our drivers are frontline employees facing Covid-19 fears head on every day to make sure passengers can get to their essential destinations. “We are tremendously grateful and appreciative of our drivers for their dedication to providing essential service during this difficult time” said PVTA Spokeswoman, Brandy Pelletier. We want to make sure that our public transit workers continue to be recognized for their tireless efforts to maintain operations, deliver essential services, and protect and serve the public.

If you are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath) or have been in contact with someone that tested positive, please do not use public transportation. Help keep our driver’s healthy so we can continue to provide essential service to everyone that depends on public transit.

# # #

### About the PVTA

The PVTA is the largest regional transit authority in Massachusetts with 188 buses, 141 vans and 24 participating member communities. Additional information about the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority may be found at [www.pvta.com](http://www.pvta.com) or by calling 1-877-779-7882.