

#### Contact

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Monday, March 8, 2021

# DART to offer free rides to COVID vaccine appointments

No charge for rides to confirmed appointments

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) will offer free rides to COVID vaccine appointments starting today, Monday, March 8, 2021. Free rides are available on all Local, Express and On Call routes.

DART Bus Plus riders can reserve a free ride to or from their vaccine appointment using DART's Paratransit services as well. These rides must be reserved at least 24 hours in advance by calling 515-283-8136.

Free rides to COVID vaccine appointments will be offered until further notice. Riders are asked to bring proof of their vaccine appointment.

## Plan your trip

Riders can turn to their county health department for more information on vaccine availability and appointments. Polk County information is available online <a href="here">here</a>.

Once they know where they need to go, riders are encouraged to use the MyDART Trip Planner available on <u>DART's website</u> and through the free MyDART app to learn which transit services they could use to get to their appointment. This information is also available online using Google Maps.

### Face masks required

As a reminder, face masks are required by federal mandate on public transit vehicles and at transit facilities, including while outdoors waiting for a bus. Masks should fit securely over the face and must be worn over the mouth and nose at all times. Disposable masks are available at the front of the bus for riders who do not have one.

We ask all riders to continue following the guidance of local and national health officials by practicing social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands frequently, and staying home and avoid riding DART whenever you feel ill.

Riders can learn more about DART's services, learn which routes operate near them, and plan trips by visiting <u>DART's website</u>. Please direct questions related to DART's service to DART Customer Service <u>via email</u>, or by calling 515-283-8100 option 0.

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) is the public transportation provider in and around Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that connects thousands of people every day to jobs, school, medical appointments, entertainment and more. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at <u>ridedart.com</u> or call 515-283-8100.