FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 04/09/2020 Roaring Fork Transportation Authority Contact: Jamie Tatsuno, Communications Manager 970-384-4864 or jtatsuno@rfta.com www.rfta.com



Effective Monday, April 13 all RFTA Passengers Must Wear Face Coverings and Adhere to Social Distancing Policies Aboard RFTA Services

At its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, the RFTA Board of Directors voted to continue Phase 3 service reductions in alignment with enhanced safety measures recommended by staff. These measures include mandatory face coverings for all riders and limiting the seating on buses to no more than nine passengers at one time.

In an effort to further protect riders and bus operators, effective Monday, April 13, every person boarding a RFTA bus must have a face cover or cloth mask covering their nose and mouth in order to use RFTA services. Scarves, bandannas, buffs or other non-medical coverings are acceptable. This motion is in alignment with the City of Glenwood Springs Public Health Order released earlier this week.

RFTA is allowing people to board buses for essential travel only. Essential travel for individuals travelling to essential jobs and for critical needs like groceries or medication. ONLY use RFTA to travel from your home to places you need to go to do necessary tasks, errands, get food or necessary equipment and supplies, or work in a critical business or government function.

If you must use RFTA for essential travel, please maintain six-foot social distancing while at bus stops and stations and aboard the bus. In order to maintain adequate space for social distancing, RFTA is not permitting more than nine passengers at once to ride on a bus. If the bus fills up, RFTA will do its best to get another bus in route as quickly as possible. To help with social distancing on the bus, certain seats are blocked off for limited seating. As well, all passengers must board RFTA buses through the rear doors with the exception of individuals needing the wheelchair ramp.

These changes are being made in an attempt to prioritize the health and safety of RFTA's bus operators and riders. While these service changes are being put in place to enhance safety, it is absolutely critical that customers utilize RFTA for essential travel only, wear face coverings and follow social distancing practices.

During the COVID-19 crisis, please help RFTA preserve its limited passenger capacity for those who truly need it. Use RFTA for essential travel only!

RFTA wants to acknowledge its Bus Operators and Maintenance personnel. Without their heroic and selfless efforts RFTA could not maintain essential transit services for those who rely on them.

RFTA is dedicated to meeting the ever-changing recommendations and requirements necessary for fighting the spread of COVID-19. Follow RFTA updates regarding COVID-19 at <u>www.rfta.com</u>.

Questions, contact RFTA Communications Manager, Jamie Tatsuno at 970-384-4864 or jtatsuno@rfta.com.

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