

# FEDERAL MASK MANDATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A **Presidential Executive Order 13998** was published on January 26, 2021 that required immediate action to require face mask wearing on certain domestic modes of transportation. All agencies receiving federal funds must take immediate action to the extent appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to require face masks be worn in compliance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The **CDC and Human Services Order Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) and 42 Code of Federal Regulations 70.2, 71.31(b), 71.32(b)** had published the requirements on wearing face masks while on conveyances and at Transportation Hubs – Mask-Order-CDC GMTF 01-29-21.

Some of the specific requirements are:

1. Material covering the nose and mouth of the wearer.
2. A mask should be secured to the head, including with ties or ear loops.
3. A mask should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
4. Masks do not include face shields.
5. Masks can be either manufactured or homemade and should be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, or punctures.
6. Medical masks and N-95 respirators fulfill the requirements of this Order.

The **Transportation Security Administration – SD 1582/81-21-010 – Security Measures- Mask Requirements – 49 U.S.C. 114** provides further specific guidance on complying with mask requirements. Failure to comply with mask requirement can result in civil penalties.

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AGENCY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT The TxDOT- Public Transportation Division is requiring subrecipients who provide public transportation to acknowledge receipt of this notification, referencing the Presidential Executive Order, CDC Guidelines, and TSA Requirements regarding face mask covering. Please respond to the questions below, sign/date, and return to your Public Transportation Coordinator by **February 19, 2021**. *The federal mask mandate is also relevant to any third-party contractors providing public transportation.*

I certify that Fort Bend County has been informed of the Presidential Executive Order, CDC Guidelines, and TSA Requirements for Face Mask, referenced above, and understand it is the agency’s responsibility to read and follow these requirements. I further certify that any third-party contractors providing public transportation have been informed of, and will comply with, the mandate.

Person of Authority <b>K.P. George, County Judge</b>	<b>February 23, 2021</b> Date Acknowledged
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Describe the steps your agency and any third-party contractor(s) (if applicable) has made, or intends to make, to implement this requirement (including informing riders).

Fort Bend County Public Transportation, also known as, Fort Bend Transit has posted a public notification of the Executive Order on our website as well as installed posters at our park & ride locations referencing the Executive Order requirements. Additionally, formal notification was sent to all Public Transportation Department employees and Contractors on February 1, 2021. Internal procedures were updated and training to the Executive Order requirements was conducted both internally and to the Contractors on February 1, 2021.

Describe the actions your agency and any third-party contractor(s) (if applicable) has taken, or intends to take, to address instances of non-compliance.

Fort Bend Transit has conducted training with the Contractor operators on the process to be executed for non-compliance with the Executive Order requiring masks. The process for non-compliance is documented in our internal procedures. If a passenger attempts to board without wearing an approved facemask, the operator is to offer a mask to the passenger. For individuals that are deemed non-compliant, the following sequence of events is to be executed:

- Contact dispatch
- Deny boarding
- Make best efforts to disembark the individual as soon as possible
- Make best efforts to remove the individual from the transportation hub or facility