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May 29, 2020

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Attention: Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Executive Director  
4300 Cherry Creek Dr. South  
Denver, Colorado 80246

**Re: Teller County Supplemental Request for Variance from PHO 20-28 (Section II. A, subsection 5) for Casinos in Cripple Creek, CO**

Dear Director Ryan,

Thank you for your response and partial approval of our May 8, 2020 Variance Request as detailed in your May 22, 2020 letter. In the approval letter, you stated that casinos are not allowed to open and that the State of Colorado would be issuing guidelines around casinos soon. To date, no such guidance has been issued and we've heard the State is looking to gaming Counties to submit variance requests.

This supplemental request provides updated protocols for casinos, and more specifically, for the smaller, unique casinos in historic Cripple Creek. These specific protocols supplement the casino guideline information provided with our initial request. These local casino protocols were prepared by local industry experts who are confident their social distancing protocols and safety measures will be effective for these small casinos. As explained in more detail in the attached casino specific suppression plan, these smaller, low key casinos are already heavily regulated and well positioned to implement the necessary COVID-19 protocols.

As you may recall, Teller County has a low case count, adequate hospital capacity, and local testing capability has been increasing in recent weeks. Overall, we are pleased to report our suppression efforts remain effective. We have only had one new COVID-19 case since our original variance request on May 8, 2020.

Our local hospital, the Teller County Board of Health, and the Board of County Commissioners all supported our initial variance request and fully support this supplemental request for a variance specific to casinos in Cripple Creek.

The economic impact of COVID-19 has been devastating to the City of Cripple Creek, local businesses and employees, and the local casino industry. We are confident that our

supplemental variance request for casinos in Cripple Creek will prove to be effective based on our local conditions and the suppression plan the industry has outlined in this document. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Marc Dettenrieder, Chairman



Commissioner Bob Campbell, Vice Chair



Commissioner Norm Steen

**Playing a slot machine is as safe as a person dining alone at a restaurant.**

Casinos in Cripple Creek do not represent the common image of a crowded, alcohol-fueled Las-Vegas style casino that may exist in the minds of many non-gamers. Cripple Creek casinos are much smaller, low key operations located in a remote mountain town an hour drive from the closest large city. In fact, the proper way to think of Cripple Creek's casinos is simply a hotel and restaurant with a gaming floor. This is much more of a hospitality business than a gambling business. Casinos can easily follow the same health guidance regarding social distancing, use of face masks, health checks, cleaning protocols and more under which hotels and restaurants are now operating, and the following re-opening conditions are modeled on that existing guidance. State variance approvals should seek to regulate consumer behavior and business operations to maximize the health and safety of employees and customers, not single out certain business or license types.

Not only can casinos easily comply with the guidance issued for hotels and restaurants, Teller County believes Cripple Creek casinos can re-open as safely, or even more so, than restaurants that already have approval to conditionally re-open, for the following reasons that differentiate casinos:

- The gaming industry is the most regulated industry in the State of Colorado. Strictly complying with and enforcing state rules is second nature to the individually state-licensed owners, managers and staff.
- Extensive video surveillance permits security staff to know immediately if customers are violating social distancing requirements and to ensure compliance. Recordings of that video surveillance can also be highly effective in contact tracing. Under state rules, every casino must be able to follow a customer throughout the entire casino floor, and even common hotel areas and outside of the building are monitored.
- Extensive use of players club cards also permits casinos to know which customer played which game, for how long and when, further assisting contact tracing.
- Casinos are large commercial buildings that have modern ventilation and are continuously circulating outside air.
- Casino customer data shows that customers almost entirely come to a casino as a single, couple or in very small groups. Playing a slot machine (which accounts for 85% or more of gaming in a casino) is an inherently solo activity. Playing a slot machine is as safe as a person dining alone at a restaurant. And even in the normal course of business, only a minority of slot machines in a casino are being played at any one time.

- Because casinos can be open 24 hours a day, attendance is generally spread out over the day, preventing over-crowding.
- Casino technology has almost entirely eliminated the use of coins. Slot machines and other games accept and dispense paper tickets. In addition, cash doesn't trade hands often and when it does it is rarely the same bill. There is a material time delay from when a bill is deposited in a machine and when it recirculates.
- Alcohol consumption is low and tightly controlled. It is against Colorado law to game at a casino while intoxicated. Cripple Creek casinos already follow the state-recommended policy of serving no more than one drink per ½ hour to any customer.
- Cripple Creek casinos do not have nightclubs or live indoor music.
- Newly authorized sports betting in Colorado does not present any social distancing issues in Cripple Creek. In those casinos, sports betting is entirely operated through an ATM-like kiosk, accessed only by one customer at a time. There are no Las Vegas-type sports betting lounges in Cripple Creek.
- Many other states have recognized that casinos can operate safely. Twelve states have re-opened or plan to open some or all casinos, including: Arkansas (May 18), Delaware (June 1), Indiana (June 14), Iowa (June 1), Kansas (May 22), Louisiana (May 18), Mississippi (May 21), Missouri (June 1), Montana (May 4), Nevada (June 4), South Dakota (May 10), West Virginia (June 5),

○ Source: <https://www.gambling.com/news/state-by-state-gambling-legislative-impact-of-coronavirus-2223300>

### **Highlights of Teller County's proposed casino operating restrictions**

The following casino operating protocols to be required by Teller County in this variance request go further and are more restrictive than those proposed by the state gaming association and in place in many other states. A complete list of operational protocols begins on the next page, but here are a few highlights:

- Occupancy in any casino shall be limited to 40% of the posted occupancy code limit at all times.
- Required social distancing can and will be enforced throughout the property.
- No events, live music or other gatherings are permitted.

- Alcohol consumption shall be limited.
- Customer must wear a mask to enter a casino and casinos shall screen all customers and employees upon entering, including a temperature check. Employees must wear a facemask at all times.
- Comprehensive surface cleaning shall be implemented.
- All requirements outlined in the CDPHE's approval of Teller County's first variance request (dated May 22, 2020) for All Settings and for Restaurants shall be adhered to by casinos.
- Table games (craps, roulette, poker) are not to re-open immediately (except for limited black jack described in the Gaming Area Protocol on pages 6-7).

## **Health and Safety Guidelines for Re-Opening of Teller County Casinos**

### **Teller County**

#### **Employee & Customer Health**

##### **Health Screenings**

All Employees must pass Health Screening prior to commencing work or entering the properties public and employee areas. Screening will include temperature check and symptom checks. Casinos will ensure that CDPHE guidelines regarding employee temperature checks are followed. Any employee displaying a temperature over guidelines will not be allowed to work and directed towards appropriate medical care.

A casino employee shall be stationed at each entrance point and shall receive training in recognizing possible signs of persons who may be ill, and shall be instructed to routinely ask such persons if they have had a fever, had contact with anyone with the COVID-19 virus within the past fourteen (14) days, and whether they are feeling ill. A temperature check will also be performed. An affirmative answer to any of these questions or a high temperature (per CDPHE guidelines) shall result in refusing admittance to the casino on that day.

##### **Face Masks**

Employees are mandated to wear face masks once they enter the property which must be worn at all times while indoors or within 6 feet of any other person.

Customers are mandated to wear face covering in order to enter the casino. Casinos shall make masks available to customers without one. The casinos in Cripple Creek have an adequate supply of face masks to provide to customers at no cost.

### **Physical Distancing**

Customers will be advised to practice physical distancing by standing at least six feet away from other groups of people not traveling with them while standing in lines, using elevators or moving around the property.

The casino shall place markings on the floor in all areas in which patrons may form lines or queues for entry or services, including customer service desks, cashier and hotel check-in. The marking shall be designed to maintain a social distancing of 6 feet in between patrons.

Employees will ensure physical distancing by monitoring play on slot machines and at table games. Signage shall be used at all entrances and throughout the property to help enforce appropriate distancing.

Customers not complying with protocols shall be warned and if they do not comply shall be asked to leave the casino.

No large gatherings, such as concerts, events, conferences or promotions that attract group gatherings are permitted.

Employee distancing must be maintained in back of house areas such as employee break rooms, employee entrances, shared office spaces, kitchens, security scanning podiums, Employee Relations service desks and training classrooms.

### **Occupancy**

Occupancy in any casino shall be limited to 40% of the posted occupancy code limit at all times.

### **Alcohol Service**

Casinos shall limit the service of alcohol to customers to one drink every one-half hour.

### **Restaurants**

All requirements outlined in the CDPHE's approval of Teller County's first variance request (dated May 22, 2020) for restaurants shall be adhered to by casinos for all restaurants inside a casino, and are incorporated herein.

## **Elevators**

Elevator button panels shall be sanitized at regular intervals. Signage will be posted to explain the current procedures. The number of people able to enter an elevator shall be limited based on social distancing guidelines.

## **ID Check**

All customers wishing to gamble will be requested to briefly lower their masks for age and identification purposes in compliance with local gaming requirements.

## **Front of the House Signage**

Appropriate signage will be prominently displayed at each guest entry; "Do Not Enter" if feeling ill, CDC guidelines to stop the spread of virus, mandated use of mask and/or face shield, and current physical social distancing practices required in order to enter the property.

## **Back of the House Signage**

Signage will be posted throughout the property reminding employees how to stop the spread of germs and follow CDC and State guidelines for health and safety.

## **Employee & Customer Health Concerns**

Employees will be given clear instructions on how to respond swiftly and report all presumed cases of COVID-19 on property to a designated Covid-19 Health Director at each casino.

Employees are instructed to stay home if they do not feel well and are instructed to contact a manager if they notice a coworker or guest with a cough, shortness of breath, or other known symptoms of COVID-19. Employees and customers who are exhibiting any of the symptoms of COVID-19 while at the property are instructed to immediately notify their manager (employees) or security (customers).

## **Case Notification**

If a casino is alerted to a presumptive case of COVID-19 at the venue, we will work with the County health agency to follow the appropriate actions recommended by it.

## **Responsibilities to Employees**

## **Hand Washing**

All casino employees shall be instructed to wash their hands, or use sanitizer when a sink is not available, frequently (for 20-seconds) and after any of the following activities: using the restroom, sneezing, blowing the nose, cleaning, sweeping, mopping, smoking, eating, drinking, entering and leaving the gaming floor, going on break and before or after starting a shift. While on duty, all employees will wash their hands every 30 minutes and be provided the time to do so.

## **COVID-19 Training**

All employees will receive training on COVID-19 safety and sanitation protocols with more comprehensive training for those with frequent guest contact including Housekeeping, Food & Beverage, Gaming Department, Hotel Operations and Security.

## **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Appropriate PPE will be worn by all employees based on their role and responsibilities and in adherence to state or local regulations and guidance. Training on how to properly use and dispose of all PPE will be mandatory. Every employee will be provided a mask if they do not have their own and required to wear that mask while on property. Gloves will be provided to employees whose responsibilities require them including housekeeping, and public area attendants and security officers in direct contact with customers.

## **Daily Meetings & Timekeeping**

Employee pre-shift meetings will be conducted virtually or in areas that allow for appropriate physical distancing between employees. Departments will stagger employee arrival times to minimize traffic volume in back of house corridors and service elevators to the greatest extent feasible. Hand sanitizer will be available at each time clock location and employees will be required to sanitize their hands after clocking in. Casinos will communicate proper PPE usage and sanitation procedures and ensure that they are followed and updated per the latest County health agency guidance.

## **Gaming Area Protocol**

### **Table Games**

With one exception, table games (such as craps, roulette, poker) shall not re-open for 60 days.



Black jack tables may be made available so long as they are operated in a manner to maintain increased distance between players at each table and with the following conditions.

- No more than three customers are allowed per table, one on each end and in the middle. Other chairs shall be removed.
- Cards shall be dealt face up and customers are not permitted to touch the cards.
- Table games shall be operated in a manner to prevent persons not playing at a table from congregating around the table in close proximity to players at the table.
- High touch points at a table shall be sanitized frequently including, but not limited to pit stands, gaming equipment, chairs and table bumpers/arm rests.
- Hand sanitizers and sanitizing wipe stations shall be positioned in close proximity to each table game pit.

## **Slots**

Casinos shall promote social distancing between slot machines by one or more of the following methods:

- Installing a plexiglass barrier between machines
- Removing chairs from certain machines to achieve six foot distancing
- Disabling certain slot machines to achieve six foot distancing between operating machines.
- Removing or re-arranging machines from the floor to achieve six foot distancing

Slot machine touch surfaces shall be frequently wiped with a disinfectant solution when not in use.

Sanitizing wipes shall be available for players to clean a slot machine before play.

## **Cleaning Products and Protocols**

### **OSHA Compliance**

Cleaning products and protocols shall meet OSHA guidelines and be approved for use and effective against viruses, bacteria and other airborne and bloodborne pathogens.

### **Hand Sanitizer**

Hand sanitizer dispensers, touchless whenever possible, will be placed near customer and employee entrances and throughout the casino floor.

## **Sanitizing Wipes**

Sanitizing wipes will be placed throughout the gaming floor, giving customers and employees the possibility to disinfect games, seats, surfaces, and any touch points at any time.

## **Public Spaces and Communal Areas**

The frequency of cleaning and sanitizing shall be increased in all public spaces with an emphasis on frequent contact surfaces including, but not limited to, front desk check-in counters, elevators and elevator buttons, door handles, public bathrooms, room keys and locks, ATMs, escalator and stair handrails, casino cage counters, gaming machines, gaming tables, dining surfaces and seating areas.

## **Guest Rooms**

Approved cleaning and sanitizing protocols are to be used to clean guest rooms, with particular attention paid to high-touch items including television remote controls, toilet seats and handles, door and furniture handles, water faucet handles, nightstands, telephones, in-room control panels, light switches, temperature control panels, alarm clocks, luggage racks and flooring.

## **Laundry**

All bed linen and laundry will be changed upon check out, with towel/linen service upon request, and washed at a high temperature and in accordance with CDC guidelines.

## **Back of the House**

The frequency of cleaning and sanitizing will also increase in high traffic back of house areas with an emphasis on the employee break rooms, employee entrances, uniform control rooms, employee restrooms, offices, kitchens, security scanning podiums, Employee Relations service desks and training classrooms.

## **Shared Equipment**

Shared tools and equipment will be sanitized before, during and after each shift or anytime the equipment is transferred to a new employee. This includes phones, radios, computers, keys, payment terminals, time clocks and all other direct contact items used throughout the venue.

## **Room Recovery Protocol**

In the event of a presumptive case of COVID-19 the guest's room will be removed from service and quarantined. The guest room will not be returned to service until the case has been confirmed or cleared. In the event of a positive case, the room will only be returned to service after undergoing an enhanced sanitization protocol and approval by the County health agency if required.

### **Air Filter and HVAC Cleaning**

The frequency of air filter replacement and HVAC system cleaning shall be increased and fresh air exchange is to be maximized.

Teller County will be constantly reviewing these guidelines, compliance levels and their impacts on ensuring a safe environment for casino customers and employees and may make future recommendations to either the casinos or the State based on that review.





P.O. Box 430 Cripple Creek, CO 80813 (719) 689-2502

May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Cripple Creek's City Council fully supports Teller County's effort to secure an amendment to their May 22<sup>nd</sup> approved variance request, which would allow for the reopening of the casino industry in Cripple Creek. To address the additional visitors coming to town, the city will reopen its Transit Department on Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. The city's Transit operation will transport gaming customers, tourists, and our residents in a safe and efficient manner. The Transit Department has taken the following precautions to ensure safe travel for all our riders and employees:

- Fare free. The city will not be charging its usual rider fares, so that there is no money being exchanged between customers/drivers.
- One driver, one rider/family policy will be in place.
- Sneeze guard enclosures have been installed in our transit vehicles to protect passengers and drivers.
- COVID-19 Signage is posted on all transit vehicles.
- Seats will be closed off, on each vehicle, to ensure six feet of distance between passengers and every other row will not be utilized.
- The city's large trolley (26 Feet), with a mid-vehicle entry point, will be the primary mover of passengers. The trolley is larger than our other vehicles and provides more social distancing for passengers.
- All drivers and passengers will be required to wear masks.
- Transit vehicles will be assigned to specific drivers, who will clean and maintain their vehicle. This way, transit drivers are not using different vehicles for their shifts. Vehicles will be thoroughly cleaned on a daily basis, with wipe downs of the vehicles occurring several times a day.
- The city's transit employees will have their temperatures taken daily and report their health conditions to their supervisors at the beginning and end of each shift.
- Additional training has been provided for ADA securement, COVID-19 safety, cleaning, and other related procedures.

The City Council believes with proper social distancing, and other guidelines in place that have been proposed by Teller County and the casino industry, gaming can be conducted in a safe and responsible manner. It is very important to our city, Teller County and the entire Pikes Peak Region that the gaming industry be allowed to reopen.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Milford Ashworth, Mayor  
Tom Litherland, Mayor Pro Tem  
Meghan Rozell, Councilperson  
Melissa Trenary, Councilperson  
Charles Solomone, Councilperson



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May 28, 2020

Larry Hill  
CEO  
"Triple Crown Casinos"  
Cripple Creek, CO

RE: Casino Shuttle operations upon re-opening of Colorado Casinos

We remain hopeful of commencing limited shuttle service to Cripple Creek soon, subject to the casinos being allowed to be open. We have not yet determined which of our 4 park-n-ride depot locations (Pueblo, West and East Colorado Springs, and Woodland Park) will be opened, or the frequency of schedules and departures at these location(s). That will be determined following a more thorough assessment of anticipated demand for these shuttle services in coming weeks.

We are continuously working through many issues and concerns relative to how our casino shuttle service will look and operate differently than it did "pre covid-19. Some of the changes being utilized and evaluated further are;

- Limited seating capacity and/or various vehicle sizes, where possible
- Phased schedules, with more frequent departures on busier weekends than weekdays
- Mask requirement for passengers and drivers
- Pre-purchased e-Tickets, rather than "cash upon boarding"
- Pre-purchased monthly e-Tickets for casino employees
- Adherence to **Clean Care protocols as adopted by the International Motorcoach Group**
  - <https://imgcoach.com/covid-19/img-clean-care/719-img-clean-care/file> (and as attached)
- UV-C light cleaning on scheduled intervals, as part of our enhanced cleaning, disinfecting schedule
- Hand sanitizer available in buses; we have purchased in bulk and are in the process of installing dispensers on buses

Further, the Colorado Department of Health & Environment recently published "COVID-19 Guidelines for Public Transportation Providers" that we are aligning our operating procedures with;

- <https://covid19.colorado.gov/guidance-resources>
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F6eikZlcwLOvmalkjo5Y9ksF-5CQ13Kp/view> (and as attached)

We continue to be proactive in monitoring guidelines from local, state and federal authorities with flexibility to adapt as necessary to continue operating our transportation services as safely as possible, as we have since commencing operation in 1993.

Sincerely,

  
Todd A. Holland  
President / CEO

E [todd@ramblin.com](mailto:todd@ramblin.com) T 719-590-8687 x100



# CLEAN *Care*

The *International Motorcoach Group* (IMG), North America's premier motor coach network, continues with our longstanding commitment to providing a clean environment for both employees and guests while aboard certified members' motorcoaches. Our "Clean Care" guidelines have been developed to meet or exceed the guidelines\* set forth by the CDC, as well as the recommendations of the travel industry and the medical community.

## CLEAN *Care* VEHICLE PREPARATION

Prior to every trip, IMG Operators will clean and disinfect each vehicle.

- Clean surfaces
- Use EPA/CDC approved disinfectants

## CLEAN *Care* WHILE TRAVELING

While traveling, critical touch points will be cleaned and sanitized.

- Sanitize high touch areas
- Use EPA/CDC approved disinfectants

## CLEAN *Care* ADDITIONAL CLEANING

Vehicles will be subject to deeper cleaning and sanitizing at planned intervals, including enhanced deep cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing procedures to supplement daily cleaning.

- Scheduled at regular intervals
- Supplement daily cleaning routines
- Focused on disinfecting & sanitizing

## CLEAN *Care* PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

IMG Operators provide drivers, cleaning staff and other employees that interact with motorcoaches recommended PPE.

- Coach Cleaners/Maintenance
- Drivers & Guides
- Support Staff (as appropriate)

## CLEAN *Care* SOCIAL DISTANCING

We encourage customers to have open dialogue with member companies regarding their groups needs, including any social distancing desires, to ensure passenger comfort within the vehicles.

## CLEAN *Care* SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Passengers & Guests can participate in safety precautions by following CDC Guidelines-

- Wash hands often and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- If you are sick, think you may be sick, have been exposed to someone who is sick, or have a temperature, do not travel.

\*As at May 15, 2020



Agencies or individuals providing public transportation, including rideshares and taxis, can take measures to protect themselves, their passengers, and employees, from COVID-19. This document provides guidance to mitigate transmission of COVID-19 through the use of communication and education, social distancing, and personal and environmental cleaning practices.

- Employees who are sick should notify their supervisor and stay home. Those who exhibit fever, dry cough, shortness of breath should follow the directions for self-isolation and seek medical attention if needed.
- Employees who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should not be expected to report to work. They should stay home, self-quarantine and monitor themselves for symptoms.
- Employers should consider screening employees, including taking their temperatures, when they report to work. Ask them if they have a fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, or have been in close contact with anyone exhibiting these symptoms. If they answer “yes” to any of these screening questions send them home and advise them to follow the directions for either self-quarantine or self-isolation. Be sure to maintain employee confidentiality at all times.
  - An employee health screening form is available at [covid19.colorado.gov/schools-workplaces-community](https://covid19.colorado.gov/schools-workplaces-community)
- Employees who are sick or symptomatic may be eligible to return to work if they meet the following criteria\*:
  - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
  - At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
  - Or have been cleared by a doctor to return to work.
  - \*This information is general guidance, and may differ based on each individual’s situation.

### Communication and education for employees and drivers

- Employees should adhere to social distancing requirements by staying 6 feet away from other employees.
- Employees can take steps to protect themselves at work and at home. Older people and people with serious chronic medical conditions are at higher risk for complications.
- Post signs where employees can see them, reminding them to avoid touching their eyes, noses and mouths and to practice proper sneezing and cough etiquette: [[English](#), [Spanish](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Somali](#)].
- Have ample supplies of hand sanitizer on hand for your employees and passengers.

- Avoid handling money, if possible. Consider wearing disposable gloves if you must collect money from passengers. Use one pair of gloves per customer and throw them away after each use.
- Prioritize providing appropriate gloves, masks, face shields and other personal protective equipment to employees to the extent possible. Using cloth face coverings will preserve medical masks for health care workers and first responders.

### Communication and education for passengers

- Communicate to the public they should avoid public transit if they are sick.
- Public transportation should be limited to essential trips only, such as to work for critical workers and to meet essential personal needs.
- Post signs inside busses or in the back seat of rideshares and taxis, reminding passengers to avoid touching their eyes, noses and mouths and to practice proper sneezing and cough etiquette: [[English](#), [Spanish](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Somali](#)].

### Ensure social distancing

- Post signs reminding passengers that social distancing requirements apply to public transport.
- Limit vehicle capacity to ensure passengers maintain at least 6 feet of spacing from other passengers, or approximately 20% of vehicle capacity. Consider cordoning off seats or portions of vehicles, as well as skipping stops if vehicles are already at capacity, in order to maintain social distancing.
- Create physical distance between passengers and drivers
  - Do not seat passengers in the first one or two rows of seats immediately behind or adjacent to the driver's seat to maintain 6 feet of separation. Tape off those seats.
  - Passengers can board through the rear door, if there is a rear door, to avoid encroaching on the 6-foot buffer with the driver that might occur with front-door boarding.
  - If the bus has only one front door, or fares must be put into a farebox, such that back door boarding is not possible, the driver may stand outside the bus while boarding is occurring. This will give either 6-foot separation, or will at least place the driver in an open-air setting, not confined space, during boarding.
- Transit agencies may consider modifications to service, prioritizing routes that serve medical facilities, employment centers that are critical to the supply chain, access to core needs (e.g. grocery stores, food banks, and schools or other places where meals are provided) and lifeline services for the most vulnerable populations.
- If you work for a rideshare company or are a taxi driver, ask passengers to sit in the back to create physical distance.

### Regular cleaning of busses and other vehicles, including rideshares and taxis

For guidance regarding how to routinely clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces, including vehicles, refer to [CDPHE's Environmental Cleaning Guidance for COVID-19](#).

Based on what is currently known about the virus, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets. Transmission of COVID-19 to persons from surfaces contaminated with the virus has not been documented. Current evidence suggests that COVID-19 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty and high touch surfaces followed by disinfection is a best

practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in households and community settings.

- **Cleaning:** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection. Cleaning is typically performed using soap, detergents, cleansers and water.
- **Disinfecting:** refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface *after* cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection. Disinfecting is typically performed using approved commercial or household disinfecting solutions.

The following guidance is recommended for proper cleaning and disinfecting of vehicles:

1. Clean heavily soiled or dirty vehicle and equipment surfaces before and after operation and before disinfecting; wearing chemical gloves (i.e., nitrile gloves) is highly recommended.
2. Vehicles used for rideshares and taxis should be cleaned and disinfected as often as possible - especially after dropping off passengers who appear to be sick.
3. Follow cleaning activities with an approved disinfectant; wearing chemical gloves (i.e., nitrile gloves) is highly recommended.
4. All commonly touched surfaces used to access and control the vehicle should be cleaned and disinfected; common surfaces will include:
  - a. Door handles and grab bars
  - b. Interior door handle and surrounding surfaces
  - c. Fare box
  - d. Instrument panel, gear shift and control knobs and devices, don't forget any keys, keybobs or fuel cards
  - e. All other devices used during your shift
  - f. Steering wheel, center console, and radio microphone
  - g. Seat belt and buckle
  - h. Wash hands after cleaning for a minimum of 20 seconds
5. Repeat cleaning and disinfecting practices at end of shift or sooner if driver or passengers exhibit COVID-19 symptoms.

