

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SPOKANE TRANSIT

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STA TO RESUME EXPRESS SERVICE JUNE 15
COVID-19 Safety Measures Remain in Place

Spokane, WA – As commuters in the Spokane region are returning to work in Phase 2 of Governor Jay Inslee’s Safe Start Washington plan, STA will resume full service levels (Non-School Day Service) on Monday, June 15, by reinstating the express service that was temporarily suspended during the former Stay Home, Stay Healthy emergency order.

Express routes to be reinstated Monday, June 15:

- Route 124 – North Express
- Route 144 – South Express
- Route 172 – Liberty Lake Express
- Route 173 – Valley Transit Center Express
- Route 190 – Valley Express

All regular route trips cancelled due to suspended express service will also resume.

Throughout most of the emergency order, STA provided its essential service to about 30% of its normal weekday ridership. Since Phase 2 began, ridership has increased to about 50% of normal weekday ridership. Returning to full service represents an 11% increase in the overall service level, which equates to more trips and more space for customers to spread out and practice social distancing on the bus.

Other COVID-19 safety measures currently in place to help protect employees and customers will continue as well:

- Fares remain temporarily suspended and customers will continue boarding through the rear doors. Customers with disabilities or those who require mobility assistance may board through the front door.
- Transit passengers are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while on the bus and at transit facilities.

- The STA Plaza and most of its business tenants remain open, although there is no public seating or waiting inside the building.
- Increased disinfectant protocols for vehicles and transit facilities will remain in effect.
- STA will continue sharing important health and safety practices recommended by the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), including proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

To sign up for Spokane Transit updates and emergency notifications via text and email, visit <https://www.spokanetransit.com/about-sta/sta-linked>.

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STA provides public transportation services through fixed route (bus) service, paratransit operations and vanpool to the cities of Airway Heights, Cheney, Liberty Lake, Medical Lake, Millwood, Spokane and Spokane Valley and parts of the unincorporated County. The organization employs more than 600 people and is overseen by a 12-member regional board: nine voting elected officials from Spokane County and cities in the Public Transportation Benefit Area, two non-voting elected officials from area small cities, and a non-voting labor member. For more information about STA, please visit www.spokanetransit.com.