



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE KC STREETCAR ADJUSTS SERVICE IN RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

(Kansas City, Missouri) – In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the KC Streetcar will temporarily operate service with two streetcars, ending service at 8:00 p.m. nightly.

Starting on Wednesday, March 25, the KC Streetcar will operate two streetcars daily, with 15-minute frequencies, alongside the previously announced adjusted hours of operation of 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, and 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The KC Streetcar is continuing to operate seven days a week providing important access to grocery stores, essential employment centers, medical facilities, and pharmacy services.

This shift will have minimal impact on public service but does help to minimize staff and resource deployment, aligning KC Streetcar operations with the needs and conditions downtown while continuing to provide essential public transportation service.

“I am grateful to every member of our KC Streetcar team for providing crucial connections to downtown’s most essential services during this challenging time,” said Tom Gerend, executive director of the KC Streetcar Authority. “This service reduction will allow for redeployment of KC Streetcar staff to perform supplemental deep cleaning and sanitization efforts of the streetcar vehicles as we do all we can to safely serve the needs of our passengers,” continued Gerend.

The KC Streetcar is closely monitoring the situation and will follow instructions and recommendations issued by the City of Kansas City, Missouri, the Kansas City Health Department and RideKC partners. KC Streetcar operations and services will be evaluated after two weeks to allow for any adjustments if needed. Any changes in service and operations will be communicated electronically through the KC Streetcar website (www.kcstreetcar.org/clean), social media channels and the RideKC Notify text alert system (text ‘streetcar’ to 816.685.8541).

As part of the daily maintenance routine, all KC Streetcars receive a mid-day cleaning and a thorough cleaning at the end of every day. The cleaning products the team uses are effective against numerous bacteria and viruses, including the Human Coronavirus and Influenza Type A Virus. Other proactive measures include installing hand sanitizer dispensers on every KC Streetcar vehicle, automatically opening all streetcar doors for riders, and equipping operators with gloves, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes and Lysol, which is sprayed onboard every time a streetcar arrives at the Union Station streetcar stop.

For KC Streetcar inquiries, contact Donna Mandelbaum with the KC Streetcar Authority at 816.627.2526 (office), 816.877.3219 (cell) or by email at dmandelbaum@kcstreetcar.org. The KC Streetcar is also online at www.kcstreetcar.org and on Twitter (@kcstreetcar), Facebook (@kcstreetcar) and Instagram.

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