

# COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) for Southwest Transportation Agency and South County Support Services

This CPP is designed to control exposures to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that may occur in our workplace.

**Date:** December 1, 2020

## Authority and Responsibility

Gary Geringer has overall authority and responsibility for implementing the provisions of this CPP in our workplace. In addition, all managers and supervisors are responsible for implementing and maintaining the CPP in their assigned work areas and for ensuring employees receive answers to questions about the program in a language they understand.

All employees are responsible for using safe work practices, following all directives, policies and procedures, and assisting in maintaining a safe work environment.

## Identification and Evaluation of COVID-19 Hazards

We will implement the following in our workplace:

- Conduct workplace-specific evaluations using the **Appendix A: Identification of COVID-19 Hazards** form.
- Evaluate employees' potential workplace exposures to all persons at, or who may enter, our workplace.
- Review applicable orders and general and industry-specific guidance from the State of California, Cal/OSHA, and the local health department related to COVID-19 hazards and prevention.
- Evaluate existing COVID-19 prevention controls in our workplace and the need for different or additional controls.
- Conduct periodic inspections using the **Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections form** as needed to identify unhealthy conditions, work practices, and work procedures related to COVID-19 and to ensure compliance with our COVID-19 policies and procedures.

## Employee participation

Employees and their authorized employees' representatives are encouraged to participate in the identification and evaluation of COVID-19 hazards by: Continuing to follow guidelines and protocols that have been put into place.

## Employee screening

We screen our employees by: self screening according to CDHP guidelines and using a digital thermometer for temp checks.

## Correction of COVID-19 Hazards

Unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, practices or procedures will be documented on the **Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections** form, and corrected in a timely manner based on the severity of the hazards, as follows:

- Review of condition
- Timely manner in correcting any issue as seen as unhealthy

## Control of COVID-19 Hazards

## Physical Distancing

Where possible, we ensure at least six feet of physical distancing at all times in our workplace by:

- Reducing the number of persons in an area at one time, including visitors.
- Visual cues such as signs and floor markings to indicate where employees and others should be located or their direction and path of travel.
- Staggered arrival, departure, work, and break times.

*Individuals will be kept as far apart as possible when there are situations where six feet of physical distancing cannot be achieved or is practicable.*

## Face Coverings

All employees will wear face coverings and ensure they are properly worn by employees over the nose and mouth when indoors, and when outdoors and less than six feet away from another person, including non-employees, and where required by orders from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) or local health department.

The following are exceptions to the use of face coverings in our workplace:

- When an employee is alone in a room.
- While eating and drinking at the workplace, provided employees are at least six feet apart and outside air supply to the area, if indoors, has been maximized to the extent possible.
- Employees who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or disability, or who are hearing-impaired or communicating with a hearing-impaired person. Alternatives will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Specific tasks that cannot feasibly be performed with a face covering, where employees will be kept at least six feet apart. **(ex...mechanics when working on buses if masks present a danger)**

Any employee not wearing a face covering, face shield with a drape or other effective alternative, or respiratory protection, for any reason, shall be at least six feet apart from all other persons unless the unmasked employee is tested at least twice weekly for COVID-19.

## Engineering controls

We implement the following measures for situations where we cannot maintain at least six feet between individuals:

- Partitions at training window
- Partitions at dispatch window

We maximize, to the extent feasible, the quantity of outside air for our buildings with mechanical or natural ventilation systems by:

- Ensuring the ventilation system will be properly maintained and adjusted as we always do before and after the various seasons.
- Keep doors and windows open when feasible.

## Cleaning and disinfecting

We implement the following cleaning and disinfection measures for frequently touched surfaces:

- Ensuring adequate supplies and adequate time daily for it to be done properly.
- Buses are cleaned disinfected after each completed route.

## **Shared tools, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)**

PPE must not be shared, e.g., gloves, goggles and face shields.

Items that employees come in regular physical contact with, such as phones, headsets, desks, keyboards, writing materials, instruments and tools must also not be shared, to the extent feasible. Where there must be sharing, the items will be disinfected between uses by the individual employees as well as daily by our custodian.

Sharing of vehicles will be minimized to the extent feasible, and high-touch points (for example, steering wheel, door handles, seatbelt buckles, armrests, shifter, etc.) will be disinfected between users.

## **Hand sanitizing**

In order to implement effective hand sanitizing procedures, we:

- Continue to evaluate handwashing facilities.
- Encourage and allow time for employee handwashing.
- Provide employees and visitors with an effective hand sanitizer.
- Continue to encourage employees by signage to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds each time.

## **Personal protective equipment (PPE) used to control employees' exposure to COVID-19**

We evaluate the need for PPE (such as gloves, goggles, and face shields) as required by CCR Title 8, section 3380, and provide such PPE as needed.

When it comes to respiratory protection, we evaluate the need in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 5144 when the physical distancing requirements are not feasible or maintained.

We provide and ensure use of eye protection and respiratory protection in accordance with section 5144 when employees are exposed to procedures that may aerosolize potentially infectious material such as saliva or respiratory tract fluids.

## **Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases**

This will be accomplished by using the **Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases** form.

Employees who had potential COVID-19 exposure in our workplace will be:

- Offered COVID-19 testing at no cost during their working hours.

## **System for Communicating**

Our goal is to ensure that we have effective two-way communication with our employees, in a form they can readily understand, and that it includes the following information:

- Employees should report COVID-19 symptoms and possible hazards to their immediate supervisor.
- Employees can report symptoms and hazards without fear of reprisal.
- In the event we are required to provide testing because of a workplace exposure or outbreak, we will communicate the plan for providing testing and inform affected employees of the reason for the testing and the procedures to follow of a positive test.
- Information about COVID-19 hazards employees (including other employers and individuals in contact with our workplace) may be exposed to, what is being done to control those hazards, and our COVID-19 policies and procedures.

## **Training and Instruction**

We will provide effective training and instruction that includes:

- Our COVID-19 policies and procedures to protect employees from COVID-19 hazards.
- Information regarding COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable federal, state, or local laws.
- The fact that:
  - COVID-19 is an infectious disease that can be spread through the air.
  - COVID-19 may be transmitted when a person touches a contaminated object and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth.
  - An infectious person may have no symptoms.
- Methods of physical distancing of at least six feet and the importance of combining physical distancing with the wearing of facecoverings.
- The fact that particles containing the virus can travel more than six feet, especially indoors, so physical distancing must be combined with other controls, including face coverings and hand hygiene, to be effective.
- The importance of frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and using hand sanitizer when employees do not have immediate access to a sink or hand washing facility, and that hand sanitizer does not work if the hands are soiled.
- Proper use of face coverings and the fact that face coverings are not respiratory protective equipment - face coverings are intended to primarily protect other individuals from the wearer of the face covering.
- COVID-19 symptoms, and the importance of obtaining a COVID-19 test and not coming to work if the employee has COVID-19 symptoms.

## **Appendix D:**

### **Exclusion of COVID-19 Cases**

Where we have a COVID-19 case in our workplace, we will limit transmission by:

- Ensuring that COVID-19 cases are excluded from the workplace until our return-to-work requirements are met.
- Excluding employees with COVID-19 exposure from the workplace for 14 days after the last known COVID-19 exposure to a COVID-19 case.
- Continuing and maintaining an employee's earnings, seniority, and all other employee rights and benefits whenever we've demonstrated that the COVID-19 exposure is work related.
- Providing employees at the time of exclusion with information on available benefits.

### **Reporting, Recordkeeping, and Access**

It is our policy to:

- Report information about COVID-19 cases at our workplace to the local health department whenever required by law, and provide any related information requested by the local health department.
- Report immediately to Cal/OSHA any COVID-19-related serious illnesses or death, as defined under CCR Title 8 section 330(h), of an employee occurring in our place of employment or in connection with any employment.
- Maintain records of the steps taken to implement our written COVID-19 Prevention Program in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 3203(b).
- Make our written COVID-19 Prevention Program available at the workplace to employees, authorized employee representatives, and to representatives of Cal/OSHA immediately upon request.
- We use our ongoing sheet to keep track of our COVID cases and timeline

### **Return-to-Work Criteria**

- COVID-19 cases with COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until all the following have occurred:

- At least 24 hours have passed since a fever of 100.4 or higher has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications.
  - COVID-19 symptoms have improved.
  - At least 10 days have passed since COVID-19 symptoms first appeared.
  - COVID-19 cases who tested positive but never developed COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until a minimum of 10 days have passed since the date of specimen collection of their first positive COVID-19 test.
  - A negative COVID-19 test will not be required for an employee to return to work.
  - If an order to isolate or quarantine an employee is issued by a local or state health official, the employee will not return to work until the period of isolation or quarantine is completed or the order is lifted. If no period was specified, then the period will be 10 days from the time the order to isolate was effective, or 14 days from the time the order to quarantine was effective.
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**Gary Geringer**

**12/1/2020**

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## Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections

Date:

Name of person conducting the inspection:

Work location evaluated:

Exposure Controls	Status	Person Assigned to Correct	Date Corrected
<b>Engineering</b>			
Barriers/partitions			
Ventilation (amount of fresh air and filtration maximized)			
Additional room air filtration			
<b>Administrative</b>			
Physical distancing			
Surface cleaning and disinfection (frequently enough and adequate supplies)			
Hand washing facilities (adequate numbers and supplies)			
Disinfecting and hand sanitizing solutions being used according to manufacturer instructions			
<b>PPE (not shared, available and being worn)</b>			
Face coverings (cleaned sufficiently often)			
Gloves			
Face shields/goggles			

## Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases

All personal identifying information of COVID-19 cases or symptoms will be kept confidential. All COVID-19 testing or related medical services provided by us will be provided in a manner that ensures the confidentiality of employees, with the exception of unredacted information on COVID-19 cases that will be provided immediately upon request to the local health department, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), or as otherwise required by law.

All employees' medical records will also be kept confidential and not disclosed or reported without the employee's express written consent to any person within or outside the workplace, with the following exceptions: (1) Unredacted medical records provided to the local health department, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, NIOSH, or as otherwise required by law immediately upon request; and (2) Records that do not contain individually identifiable medical information or from which individually identifiable medical information has been removed.

**Date:**

**Name of person conducting the investigation:**

<b>Employee (or non-employee*) name:</b>		<b>Occupation (if non-employee, why they were in the workplace):</b>	
<b>Location where employee worked (or non-employee was present in the workplace):</b>		<b>Date investigation was initiated:</b>	
<b>Was COVID-19 test offered?</b>		<b>Name(s) of staff involved in the investigation:</b>	
<b>Date and time the COVID-19 case was last present in the workplace:</b>		<b>Date of the positive or negative test and/or diagnosis:</b>	
<b>Date the case first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms:</b>		<b>Information received regarding COVID-19 test results and onset of symptoms (attach documentation):</b>	



**Results of the evaluation of the COVID-19 case and all locations at the workplace that may have been visited by the COVID-19 case during the high-risk exposure period, and who may have been exposed (attach additional information):**

<b>Notice given (within one business day, in a way that does not reveal any personal identifying information of the COVID-19 case) of the potential COVID-19 exposure to:</b>			
<b>All employees who may have had COVID-19 exposure and their authorized representatives.</b>	<b>Date:</b>		
	<b>Names of employees that were notified:</b>		
<b>Independent contractors and other employers present at the workplace during the high-risk exposure period.</b>	<b>Date:</b>		
	<b>Names of individuals that were notified:</b>		
<b>What were the workplace conditions that could have contributed to the risk of COVID-19 exposure?</b>		<b>What could be done to reduce exposure to COVID-19?</b>	
<b>Was local health department notified?</b>		<b>Date:</b>	

\*Should an employer be made aware of a non-employee infection source COVID-19 status.

## Appendix D: COVID-19 Training Roster

Date:

Person that conducted the training:

Employee Name	Signature



