

COVID-19 Pandemic Social Distancing and Municipal Vehicles

Background

In the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, the City of Surrey continues to promote a fact-based approach to protect the well-being of City employees and residents.

All Staff are encouraged to do the following:

- Anyone with COVID-19-like symptoms, such as sore throat, fever, sneezing or coughing, must self-isolate at home for 10 days. After 10 days, if your temperature is normal and you feel better, you can return to your routine activities. Coughing may persist for several weeks, so a cough alone does not mean you need to continue to self-isolate for more than 10 days.
- When possible maintain a distance of 2M distance from others.
- Follow same procedures that are recommended during cold and flu season:
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer;
 - Covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing,
 - > Do not touch your face with your hands if you have touched any surface.
- Reduce in-person meetings and other gatherings and hold site meetings in open spaces or outside.

The City's Occupational Health and Safety developed the following recommended guidelines with input from Dr. Roland Guasparini, MD, MHSc, FRCPS, Fraser Public Health.

Recommended Guidelines for Social Distancing and Municipal Vehicles

- 1. Operational Areas need to consider how we are able to put some distance 1 to 2 metres between one another for short duration periods.
- 2. Limit to one person per vehicle wherever operationally possible.

Where not operationally possible limit to two persons per vehicle. This ensures we do not have three people in close contact in a single row seating vehicle e.g. a pick-up truck.

Note: Be careful about having windows open which will create turbulence in the airflow in the cab, as droplets may be dispersed rather than settle. Using the vehicle air vents blowing air gently towards the occupants and away from other occupants, is reasonable.

- 4. In vehicles with multi-row seating limit to two persons per vehicle with one person driving and one person in the opposite rear passenger seat.
- 5. Staff will not switch seats during the shift.
- 6. Staff will sanitize the vehicle every day before driving it. They will disinfect the
 - Steering wheel
 - Seatbelt clasp
 - Door handles
 - Other areas that are commonly touched.
- 7. All staff in vehicles must follow sneezing/cough etiquette.
- 8. Staff can use their own vehicle.
- 9. Staff are not allowed in any City Vehicle if they have Flu like symptoms.

Fraser Public Health advises:

If available keep a surgical mask (not N95) in vehicle in the event that one of the occupants become ill. Put surgical mask on ill person who should be transported home. Ill person should keep distance from driver, look away, cough into sleeve, cloth, tissue, etc.

The City of Surrey has requested provincial level advise, the following intern guidelines will apply until that advise is provided.

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