



AMERICAN
PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION
ASSOCIATION

Transit's Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

March 5, 2020

Media Advisory

The contents of this webinar are off the record and not for attribution or publication.

To set up an interview with an expert, please contact

T.J. Doyle at tdoyle@apta.com or

Chad Chitwood at cchitwood@apta.com.

Moderator



Jeffery Nelson
APTA Vice Chair
General Manager, MetroLink
Moline, IL

Thinking Strategically: Planning Your Response

- Identification of Alert Phases that Trigger Specific Action
- Information and Education Programs
- Decontamination Program
- Sanitary Aids to Limit Spread
- Service Reduction, Shutdown, and Restoration

Today's Presenters



Betty Hasserjian
Acting Chief
Safety Officer
TTC
Toronto, ON



Karl Gnadt
General Manager
Champaign-Urbana MTD
Urbana, IL



Kenneth Hernandez
Chief Risk
Safety and Asset
Management Officer
LA Metro
Los Angeles, CA




Esmeralda Meyer
M.D., J.M.
Associate Biosafety Officer
Environmental Health
and Safety Office
Emory University
Atlanta, GA

What to Expect

- Topic Overview
- Industry Presentations
- Panel Member Dialogue
- Audience Q&A and Discussions
- Wrap Up

Audience Questions

To submit a question or comment to the moderator during the session or during the Q&A, please type it into the **Question** box on your screen and then click on the send arrow  located at the bottom of the box.

Session Presenter



Betty Hasserjian

Acting Chief Safety Officer
Toronto Transit Commission
Toronto, ON

|TTC Approach to Previous High Profile Infectious Diseases

SARS (2003) was circulating within health care facilities but not within the community.

Key actions included:

- Working closely with local public health department and City's Office of Emergency Management
- Regular employee updates
- Emphasis on infectious disease prevention
- Stock piling PPE and equipment
- Respirators for Paratransit operators (higher risk of exposure) due to close contact with customers and trips to and from healthcare facilities

H1N1 (2009) was circulating within the community. Key actions included the above plus stockpiling of antivirals.



| TTC Approach to COVID-19

The approach to **COVID-19** has been similar to SARS. Additional actions include:

- Conference call with the City
- Operational conference calls to provide COVID-19 updates
- Increased disinfection
- Review and update of Pandemic Plan
- Continuity of Operations Plans
- Development of guides to assist front line supervisors
- Meetings with concerned work groups
- Town hall meetings with the City's Medical Officer of Health
- Information sharing with regional transportation agencies



Moderator / Presenter Conversations



Jeffery Nelson
APTA Vice Chair
General Manager
MetroLink
Moline, IL



Betty Hasserman
Acting Chief
Safety Officer
TTC
Toronto, ON

Session Presenter



Karl Gnadt
General Manager
Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District
Urbana, IL

Communications

Employees

- Group Messages
- Committee Meetings

Community

- Pass Along CDC/WHO Messages – Not Creating Our Own

Partners

- Champaign County Emergency Management Agency
- University of Illinois
- Champaign County Public Health District

Actions

Employees

- Hand Sanitizers

Fleet

- Regularly disinfect using Electrostatic Sprayer / disinfectant spray

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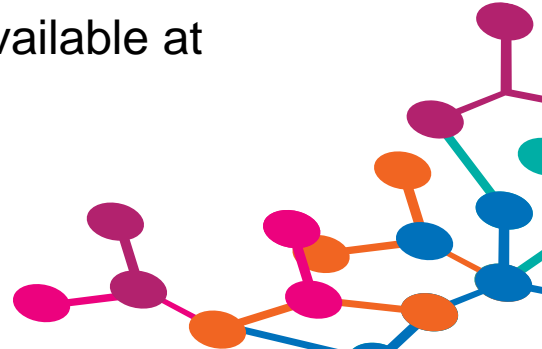
LA Metro Actions to Date

- Issued two internal communication memos to all staff – providing facts and information about COVID-19
- Specifically addressed the use of additional PPE (i.e. masks) based on CDC/LACDPH guidance
- Memo from CEO to all staff, Board of Directors, Labor Leaders, and Municipal Operators
- Distributed educational material on hand hygiene and safe coughing etiquette
- Activated a multi-disciplinary Task Force to maintain direct communications with local health agencies and discuss action plans



LA Metro Actions to Date

- Installed posters at all operating facilities informing employees about COVID-19, symptoms of the disease, and preventive measures to take to minimize risk of infection
- Distributed video link on seasonal flu to play on monitors at all operating facilities
- Taskforce recommended procuring personal hand sanitizer bottles for distribution to front line employees
- Met with LACDPH staff to discuss additional proactive actions
- Conducted inventory of N-95 masks currently available at agency



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GLOBAL



FEDERAL



Occupational Safety and Health Administration



DOMESTIC



INDUSTRY



STATE



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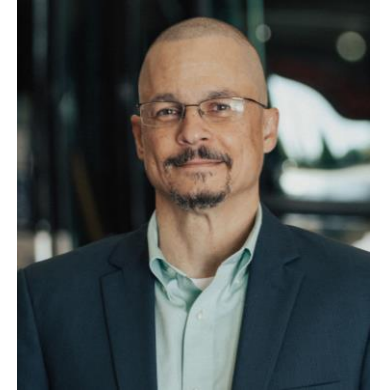
Q&A With Today's Presenters



Jeffery Nelson



Betty Hasserjian



Karl Gnadt



Kenneth Hernandez



Dr. Esmeralda Meyer

Resources

- **APTA.com Resource Page**
<https://www.apta.com/public-transit-response-to-coronavirus/>
- **Developing a Contagious Virus Response Plan (APTA SS-S-SEM-005-09)**
https://www.apta.com/wp-content/uploads/Standards_Documents/APTA-SS-SEM-S-005-09.pdf
- **TCRP Public Transit Emergency Preparedness Against Ebola and Other Infectious Diseases: Legal Issues**
<http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/176090.aspx>
- **CDC National Pandemic Strategy**
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/national-strategy/index.html>
- **CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) communication resource videos**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/videos.html>
- **Occupational Safety and Health Administration 2019 Novel Coronavirus Guidance**
<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>

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