

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# **NJ TRANSIT LAUNCHES PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO OFFER FREE RIDES TO COVID-19 VACCINATION SITES**

VAXRIDE Establishes Partnership between NJ TRANSIT and Companies including Novartis to Provide Complimentary Travel to Vaccination Sites for NJ Residents

**NEWARK, NJ** – NJ TRANSIT has kicked off a new public-private partnership to help New Jersey residents get vaccinated, by offering complimentary rides to and from vaccination sites. The “VAXRIDE” program is funded through the generosity of sponsors

led by Novartis and provides for approximately eleven thousand NJ residents to receive up to two free round trips to get vaccinated.



NJ-based, global healthcare company Novartis is the program’s lead sponsor with a commitment of \$120,000 for the initiative. NJ-based Catalent, a global provider of drug delivery technologies and manufacturing solutions, is donating \$12,000 to help launch the VAXRIDE program. Companies who wish to become a sponsor are encouraged to contact NJ TRANSIT at [vaxride@njtransit.com](mailto:vaxride@njtransit.com)

“Transportation should not be a barrier for anyone wishing to protect themselves from COVID-19,” said New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner and NJ TRANSIT Board Chair Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti. “I want to thank our sponsors, including Novartis, for their corporate citizenship and recognizing that we are all in this

fight together. Helping those in need is a foundation of our society and I am proud we are able to launch this critical program.”

“Our goal through this public-private partnership is to help and encourage as many New Jerseyans as possible get vaccinated,” said NJ TRANSIT President & CEO Kevin S. Corbett, “We are grateful to Novartis and Catalent for their generous support. In addition to our extraordinary efforts to vaccinate our own employees, this partnership shows that NJ TRANSIT is exploring every possible avenue to ensure that all New Jerseyans have access to the vaccine in support of Governor Murphy’s statewide vaccination goals.”

“As a global healthcare company, Novartis is aligned with the scientific community that vaccination against COVID-19 is safe and effective – and represents our best chance at beating the pandemic,” said Rob Kowalski, US Country President (ad interim), Global Head of Regulatory Affairs, US Head of Global Drug Development at Novartis. “We have a terrific opportunity through our sponsorship of the VAXRIDE program to help provide transportation that will enable our fellow New Jerseyans to get their shot in the fight against COVID-19. This is a critical factor to public health.”

The complimentary tickets will be offered through the NJ TRANSIT mobile app, and an off-line method will also be offered for individuals to obtain tickets without a smartphone.

Customers using the mobile app will enter the promo code “VAXRIDE”, that can be redeemed online for 2 complimentary round-trip tickets. Tickets will be limited to up to 4-zones for intra-state bus travel only (destinations within New Jersey) and valid only to rail stations within New Jersey. The offer would be a one-time use code (per registered email), with a 60-day expiry to accommodate vaccine availability. People may travel to both publicly- and privately-operated vaccine sites, such as state “Mega-Sites” and local CVS/Walgreens locations.

Individuals without a smartphone may obtain tickets by visiting and registering at one of seven Customer Service Offices or by contacting NJ TRANSIT Customer Service and receiving their tickets via postal mail.

Registered Access Link customers may also obtain sponsored fares by mentioning the code "VAXRIDE" when making Access Link reservations via telephone.

**Customer Service Offices**

**Hours**

Hoboken Terminal

6:30am-8pm (Mon-Fri)  
Closed Sat/Sun/Hol

Newark Penn Station

6:30am-10pm (Mon-Fri)  
Sat/Sun - 8am-5pm

New York Penn Station

6am-11pm (Mon-Fri)  
Sat - 7am-11pm  
Sun - 7am-11pm

Port Authority Bus Terminal

7am-8pm (Mon-Fri)  
Closed Sat/Sun

Secaucus Junction

5:30am-10:00pm (Mon-Fri)  
Sat/Sun - 6:30am-10:00pm

Trenton Transit Center

6am-8pm (Mon-Fri)  
Closed Sat/Sun/Hol

Walter Rand Transportation Center

6am-3pm (Mon-Fri)  
Closed Sat/Sun/Hol

**About NJ TRANSIT**

NJ TRANSIT is the nation's largest statewide public transportation system providing more than 925,000 weekday trips on 253 bus routes, three light rail lines, 12 commuter rail lines and through Access Link paratransit service. It is the third largest transit system in the country with 166 rail stations, 62 light rail stations and more than 19,000 bus stops linking major points in New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia.

*This document and others are available for translation on [njtransit.com](http://njtransit.com).*