

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SunLine Transit Agency Moving to Level 3 Service This Saturday, March 21, 2020 Due to COVID-19 Impact

Local routes to follow the Sunday service schedule 7 days a week with no Route 20, 21 and 54, Commuter Route 220 or BUZZ Service in operation

(Thousand Palms) SunLine Transit Agency announced today that, beginning Saturday, March 21, 2020, it is moving to Level 3 Service, which is defined as: All local routes operating on the Sunday service schedule 7 days a week. Routes no longer in service, until further notice, will be the Commuter Route 220, the Palm Springs BUZZ, and the 20, 21 and 54. With more people staying home and less riders taking the bus, this allows SunLine to put additional resources on the routes that are being most used.

"We are continually in contact with federal, state and local governments, and have been working diligently to respond to the ever-changing climate in this health crisis," said Lauren Skiver, CEO/General Manager of SunLine Transit Agency. "Our goal is to be able to provide service for riders who need to access vital services while encouraging the community to only use public transit for those essential trips."

SunLine is taking many precautions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. The Agency introduced free fares on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, to minimize contact with transit operators at the front door and farebox area as well as to help riders impacted on a multitude of levels. In addition, SunLine implemented enhanced cleaning procedures to include additional disinfecting efforts for fixed route and paratransit vehicles and bus stops.

For up-to-date information, riders are encouraged to check SunLine's myStop App, Twitter, and its website at <a href="https://www.sunline.org/COVID">https://www.sunline.org/COVID</a>. SunLine will continue to monitor updates from the CDC and act accordingly.

Any questions can be directed to Brittney Sowell at 760-343-3456 or by emailing bsowell@sunline.org.

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## **About SunLine**

SunLine Transit Agency is a joint powers authority formed in 1977 to operate the Coachella Valley's public transportation system. SunLine offers fixed route bus service and curb-to-curb paratransit for the mobility impaired. Its fixed route and paratransit vehicles travel more than 4.1 million miles per year, covering over 619 bus stops located throughout a 1,120 mile-service area, carrying approximately 4.2 million riders. SunLine Services Group regulates the region's taxi businesses who provide taxi services throughout the Valley. SunFuels

alternative fueling station offers compressed natural gas and hydrogen for SunLine and the public 24 hours a day seven days a week. To learn more, please visit www.sunline.org.