

Public transport in Tallinn and the COVID-19 crisis

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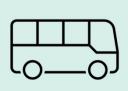


The emergency situation lasted from March 12 – May 17 2020

City of Tallinn implemented several measures in order to protect the health of the employees and the passengers. One of the main goals was also preventing further spread of the virus in the City of Tallinn.



Not one case of COVID-19 originating from the use of public transport has been confirmed. The same is for the employees – there were no cases of COVID-19 during the emergency situation in TLT.



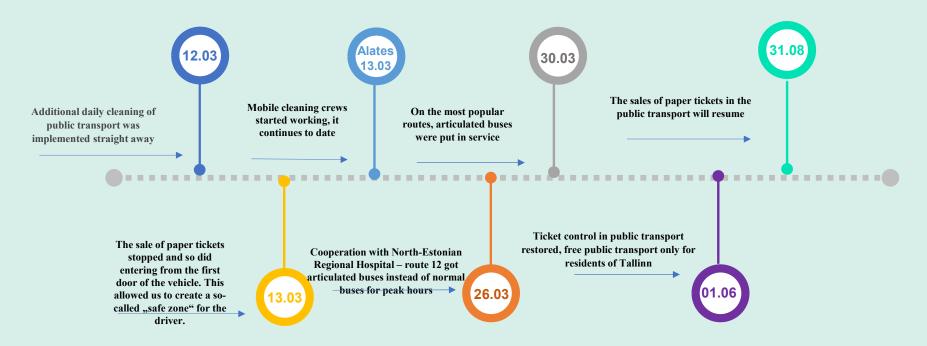






The schedules of public transport remained the same during the pandemic.

Special measures were implemented in order to minimize the risk of contagion both for passengers and employees



PASSENGER VEHICLES IN SERVICE DURING THE





City of Tallinn security measures



Flexible medical examinations of our employees are performed daily. All employees who suspected illness or just wanted to make sure that they are safe, have had the opportunity to take their temperature. The daily possibility to measure the temperature of employees is maintained even after the emergency situation. Voluntary COVID-19 antibodies will be tested in June.



The virual in-service training was created by the Government in cooperation with the Road Administration during the emergency situation, the feedback has been positive and the employees are happy as well. Trainings took place in March and April. Amendments to the Road Transport Act, which should have become effective in May, were postponed due to an emergency situation, but once the amendments inure, in-service trainings can continue virtually.



Since the establishment of the emergency situation, the line managers have informed and advised their employees that there is no reason for panic, that protecting themselves by avoiding unnecessary moves, following hygiene rules, the 2+2 rule and much more, is important. All employees were very understanding during that time.

Disinfection of public transport







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The daily disinfection in public transportation started in the beginning of the emergency situation. More than 50 employees every day are making sure that our public transport is disinfected and clean. In the terminus of Männiku, Hobujaama, Õismäe and Balti Jaam the contact surfaces in public transports are being disinfected several times a day and also at night. In addition, disinfection is carried out by three mobile teams.

In mid-April, in addition to routine disinfection, we also started researching other maintenance and virus-free methods based on the experience of other countries. As a result of that couple of our buses are provided with new technology since May and we are currently pilot testing those new technologies and their suitability. In cooperation with the C

ity of Tallinn, TLT did not reduce the timetables so that passengers could continue their unavoidable front-line operations. When purchasing a new buses, we are now considering privatizing the bus cab from the salon. In the future TLT AS is considering modern and effective antiviral control for example use of nanocoats (silica SiO2) and ozonation from public transport, copper sticker handrails etc.

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We have mapped out the most used surfaces in public transport such as handrails, backrests of the seats, validators and holding straps. Currently, the main focus of conventional cleaning is on wetting the microfiber cloths properly (so that they are not too wet), folding them and using different clean folded sides to wipe down different surfaces, constantly changing the microfiber cloth (after using all sides) and being consistent in everyday work.



Thank you

Jaagup Ainsalu

