From:	Brumfield, Ryan M
Cc:	White, Julie A (NCDOT); Sudano, Stephanie; Gallas, Rebecca J; Vine-Hodge, John A; Chambers, Blair; Freeman, Myra S
Subject:	Important Message Regarding COVID-19 Vaccination Trips
Date:	Wednesday, January 20, 2021 9:59:26 AM
Attachments:	Vaccine rides expectations_vFinal2.pdf image001.png

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Dear Transit Providers,

This email is to provide additional information and guidance regarding transportation to COVID-19 vaccination locations.

As mentioned in last week's communication from our office on this topic, the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the NC Department of Transportation (DOT) are collaborating to make sure that no barriers, including lack of transportation, prevent someone from getting vaccinated. We want to make sure all North Carolina residents are eligible and prioritized for transportation to receive a COVID-19 vaccine or assist someone who is receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Towards that goal, DHHS and DOT will soon be distributing Coronavirus Relief Funds to transit agencies to provide access to and from COVID-19 vaccine sites for North Carolina residents. More information regarding this funding, including specific funding amounts and guidance, will be provided soon.

This week a statewide press release and press briefing will occur on this topic. In both, anyone who needs transportation to or from a vaccine site will be encouraged to reach out to their local transit agency.

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The attached document provides an overview and recommended best practices for both transit agencies and vaccination providers. It is being distributed today to both transit agencies and vaccination providers, and offers recommendations for transit agencies and vaccine providers to coordinate services, schedule and provide rides, track service delivery metrics, and generally work together to help North Carolinians with transportation barriers get the COVID-19 vaccine.

As a reminder – regarding funding:

- **Immediately available:** Per the FTA FAQs provided previously, CARES Act funding and traditional 5311 and 5307 funding can be utilized to support transportation to vaccination sites, including dedicated service and incidental use of transit vehicles related to this effort that may not meet the traditional definition of public transportation.

- **Forthcoming:** NCDOT IMD is working to finalize additional DHHS funding as soon as possible, then will distribute to transit agencies. IMD is also working to identify other potential funding sources which could further assist with operational and technology needs.

Please reach out to your assigned Planner or to me directly with any questions or needs. Thank you for all that you are doing to lead and support this critical effort!

Ryan

Ryan Brumfield, PE
Interim Director
Integrated Mobility Division
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Office – (919) 707-4674
Cell – (919) 928-3377
rmbrumfield@ncdot.gov

1 S Wilmington Street, Room 546
Raleigh, NC 27699-1550

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