



# COMMUTER NEWSLETTER

April 2022



## DIESEL FUEL PRICES GONE CRAZY! A Letter from Tom & Jim JeBran

This newsletter is coming out at a good time as we wanted to write a letter to our passengers today.

First, thank you for being loyal passengers with Trans-Bridge Lines during a time when fuel prices are soaring. Fuel jumped from \$4.71 per gallon on April 8, to \$6.45 today (April 29). All week long it has been increasing for bulk fuel, which we buy in truckloads of 7,500 gallons. We are down to 3,400 gallons in our tank and cannot pump below 3,000 gallons because of the sludge in the bottom of our fuel tanks.

That's just the way it is.

So ... we are trying all different ways to fuel our buses and conserve fuel.

We do not want to raise prices on our New York tickets. We increased our fares last month, but not enough to cover the fuel cost at that time. We were hoping fuel costs would drop. It is certainly not covering the fuel prices now.

We have had our maintenance personnel transfer fuel from the out-of-service buses and fuel only the buses that need it for the day.

Our drivers have stopped to fuel at area

stations for \$5.29 per gallon. It has really helped.

Our management team is trying to come up with contingency plans to buy time before we need to receive a truckload of fuel in the hopes that prices will fall to at least the retail levels.

Why this is happening to our bulk prices is anyone's guess. I have never seen anything like this in my 41 years here. Unbelievable! But thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

*Tom & Jim*



[VIEW MAY COMMUTER FARES >](#)

**REMINDER:**  
Run 134 on the Allentown/Clinton/New York Schedule will depart from Gate 6 at the Port Authority Bus Terminal.



Trans-Bridge will operate with normal schedules on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8.

### Diesel prices soaring and likely to stay that way

Energy economist Verleger sees a diesel market impacted by several factors that are driving prices higher at a rate exceeding other oil markets



[READ THE STORY >](#)



## L VIA GOING CASHLESS MAY 1

Effective May 1, 2022, Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) will no longer accept cash transactions for Trans-Bridge Lines tickets. As companies made the move to cashless transactions during the COVID-19 pandemic, ABE will also make the transition to be a fully cashless operation based on advice from healthcare professionals.

With fewer individuals carrying cash for their purchases, the decision will also increase efficiency at checkout for passengers who need to obtain their tickets and head to the intermodal for their bus.

For individuals who do not carry debit or credit cards, you may purchase your tickets with cash at our main office at 1212 Industrial Drive, Bethlehem, just off Schoenersville Road. The office, which is less than one mile from the airport, operates Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

# Schedule Changes



## MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022

Effective Monday, April 18, 2022, there were schedule changes affecting:

- Allentown/Clinton/New York Schedules
- Newark Airport Schedules
- Wind Creek Bethlehem Schedules

Eastbound to New York changes include:

- Run 609 - Removal of the Clinton Park & Ride stop at 7:05 a.m.
- Addition of Run 107 beginning at Allentown Bus Terminal at 6:00 a.m. and Easton Intermodal Transportation Center at 6:35 a.m.
- Run 109 & Run 111 - Changes in stop locations.

Westbound from New York changes include:

- Changes to departure gate numbers at Port Authority Bus Terminal.
- Run 118 - Removal of the William Penn Park & Ride and the Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) stops.
- Addition of Run 120 departing the Port Authority Bus Terminal at 4:50 p.m. This run will include stops at William Penn Park & Ride and Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE).

[VIEW ALL SCHEDULES >](#)

“

“Calm is a great reminder to just take one moment to breathe and that can really reset my mind during a hectic day.”

”

- PARTNER EMPLOYEE

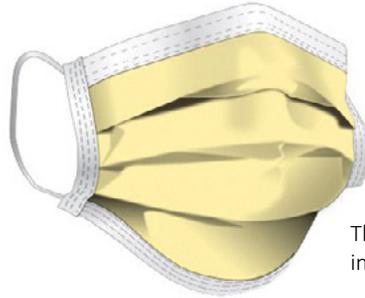


### DID YOU KNOW ...

The exact location of our Wall Street stop near Water Street is marked with a Trans-Bridge Lines sign?

The sign is directly opposite 99 Water Street and indicates the precise place that our motorcoach will pick up passengers. (See the yellow highlighted area in the photo below.)

## Regarding Face Masks



The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is no longer enforcing its mask-related security directives.

Trans-Bridge Lines follows all TSA directives and will no longer require masks on our motorcoaches. Drivers and passengers have the option of wearing face coverings if they so choose.

The CDC continues to recommend that people wear masks in indoor public transportation settings.

Trans-Bridge Lines expects all customers and our employees to be respectful of each other's choice on whether or not to mask.



## Buses - The Unsung Heroes of the Transportation Industry

by Melanie Hinton, American Bus Association

Some superhero stories start off with "it's a bird, it's a plane... it's Superman!" This story starts off with an engine coming to life and pulling out onto the highway, rural road, and a street near you. It is the story of the motorcoach and how it is here to save the day!

The bus can do more for the citizens of Metropolis, Gotham or any American town than Superman or Batman can. It can help save the environment. But much like other superhero alter egos, the bus goes unnoticed. It is not flashy. It doesn't wear a special iconic costume but what it does is no less legendary than other superheroes.

Did you know that the bus is the greenest form of transportation? Not only does a full bus take up to 50 cars off the road, but it also has a better environmental rating on a per person basis than planes and trains.

In a recent United Nations report- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change- revealed that the Earth's temperature will shoot past a key danger point unless greenhouse gas emissions fall faster than countries have committed. A 2019 report by the American Bus Association Foundation states that on average, motorcoaches use the least amount of energy and produce the lowest carbon dioxide emissions per passenger mile compared with cars, van

pools, heavy rail, intercity rail, commuter rail, domestic air travel, trolley bus, light rail, ferry boat and demand service vehicles. In the pre-pandemic era, the private motorcoach industry moved nearly 600 million passengers annually utilizing 36,000 motorcoaches.

Buses transport millions of people daily on scheduled routes taking employees to and from work; connecting rural America to urban centers when there is no other means of transportation; transporting college students to and from school; transporting military service men and women base-to-base as well as picking them up when they come home from missions; transporting school and professional sports teams to events; and helping citizens evacuate and repatriate in the face of natural disasters. Motorcoach operations reach all sectors of the country and serve ALL Americans.

Motorcoaches are also economical especially now in times of high gas prices and inflation. A recent study by Longwoods International, which studies U.S. travelers showed that the COVID-19 pandemic is less of a barrier to travel for many Americans. Instead of COVID-19, it's rising gas prices that are leading to hesitancy among travelers, with two-thirds indicating that fuel prices will impact their travel decisions in the next six months.



## Port Authority Details 3 Transformational Initiatives

The billions of dollars the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) is investing in three major areas is meant to keep pace with the expected increase in passenger and cargo volumes as the economy recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The work includes the new \$2.7 billion Terminal A at Newark Liberty International Airport, which will have 33 gates (expandable to 45 if needed) and is designed to handle 13.6 million passengers a year.

According to James Gill, general manager of New Jersey airports for the PANYNJ, the new terminal is expected to open this year.

**Steven Plate, chief of major capital projects at the PANYNJ, discussed the new Midtown Bus Station project that will replace the original facility, which was built in 1950 and expanded in 1981. It is the world's busiest bus terminal, with 186 gates and 20 bus carriers serving 260,000 riders per day (pre-pandemic).**

According to Plate, the bus terminal is perhaps the most obsolete facility that the PANYNJ operates, and the new facility is being designed after listening to the frustration of riders.

Plate said capacity will increase by 40% for commuters and intercity buses with the planned terminal. The facility will also: link directly to 12 New York City subway lines; include cutting-edge technology to manage speed and bus movements; have street facing retail; and 3.5 acres of green space.

More importantly, it is being designed for what transportation will look like 50 to 100 years from now, meaning the bus terminal will be outfitted to handle electric buses.

The entire project, estimated to cost between \$7 billion and \$10 billion, is expected to be completed by 2031.

*Excerpts of story by Anthony Birritteri  
Editor-in-Chief, New Jersey Business Magazine*



**EASTON TRANSPORTATION CENTER TICKET OFFICE**

### FACE MASK UPDATE

## PORT AUTHORITY BUS TERMINAL & NEWARK LIBERTY AIRPORT

The Port Authority will continue to follow the guidance of the New York and New Jersey public health authorities with respect to mask mandates at its public transportation facilities.



Per current New York public health guidance, the mask mandate

remains in effect for the Port Authority Midtown Bus Terminal.



Per newly issued New Jersey public health guidance, the mask mandate has been lifted for the Newark Liberty International Airport.



## When Should I Test for Covid Now?

Get tested for COVID-19:

- If you have COVID-19 symptoms.
- At least 5 days after known or suspected close contact to COVID-19.
- For screening (schools, workplaces, congregate settings, etc.)
- Before and after travel.
- When asked by a healthcare professional or public health official.
- Attending an upcoming event or gathering?  
Reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by getting tested as close to the event date as possible.

Self-tests are one of several options for testing for the virus that causes COVID-19 and may be more convenient than laboratory-based tests and point-of-care tests.

If you have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days and recovered, you do not need to be tested unless you develop new symptoms.

The [Coronavirus Self-Checker](#) is an interactive clinical assessment tool that can help you decide when to seek testing or medical care if you think you have COVID-19 or have come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

### Easton Transportation Center Ticket Office

will operate with the following updated hours:

Monday & Tuesday: 5:05 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  
 Wednesday- Friday: 5:05 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 7:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Closed Sunday



## PIER TRANSPORTATION

Although we have not yet resumed Pier Service, we are currently documenting requests for the service. If we see a common cruise date and port amongst several customers, we will look at offering service for that particular cruise. This will be dependent on driver availability.

## TRAFFIC, TRAVEL, & TRANSIT

Although we cannot keep you up-to-date on every delay that may occur, a few great resources for alerts are [511pa.com](http://511pa.com), [511nj.org](http://511nj.org), and [511ny.org](http://511ny.org). These sites contain information regarding construction delays, road closures, and accidents along your commute route. All are available as apps.

You may also sign up for free alerts from the Port Authority Bus Terminal. The alerts is customizable for your choice of airports, bridges, tunnels, and bus terminals. Click [HERE](#).

Don't forget to sign up for the [Trans-Bridge Lines Bus Tracker app!](#)  
View you bus location in real time!

\* SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION \* \* SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION \*



## TRANS-BRIDGE TOURS INC.

Tours and Vacation Travel



### RESORTS CASINO HOTEL / CAESARS HOTEL & CASINO

June 12 (Sun)  
June 25 (Sat)

\$50 Bonus: \$30 Slot Play



### ATLANTIC CITY

### EYEING BETTER DAYS - CAESARS START NEW PROJECTS

Caesars Atlantic City will start work this year on a new theater and resident show due to open in the first quarter of 2023. The project will incorporate the façade of the former Warner Theatre from 1929, which is currently part of the casino's exterior facing the Boardwalk.

Also planned for Caesars in 2022 is a new restaurant, opened by a hospitality company involving actor Robert De Niro.

To reserve any tour, please call 610-868-6001 or [click here](#) to request a reservation.

[REQUEST A RESERVATION >](#)

### UPCOMING JUNE TOURS

#### MULTI-DAY TOURS:

New England Island Hopping .....	June 6 - 10 .....	\$1,008 Double
Best of Boston .....	June 17 - 19 .....	\$564 Double
Nashville & Memphis, TN .....	June 24 - 30 .....	\$1,523 Double

#### ONE-DAY TOURS:

All Aboard for Springtime in the Poconos

Waterfront at Silver Birches .....	June 1 .....	\$121
Baltimore Inner Harbor .....	June 4 .....	\$113 with Aquarium \$77 Adult without Aquarium
Bronx Zoo .....	June 11 .....	\$100
Philadelphia Flower Show, "In Full Bloom" .....	June 13 .....	\$102
Philadelphia Flower Show, "In Full Bloom" .....	June 15 .....	\$102
Cape May Land & Sea .....	June 18 .....	\$110
Longwood Gardens Festival of Fountains .....	June 22 .....	\$93
9/11 Memorial & Museum .....	June 27 .....	\$99

#### Why Book Early?

**Nothing cancels a tour faster than waiting to make reservations.**

*All tours require a minimum number of guests. If we don't reach that minimum by our vendor deadlines, the tour will be forced to cancel due to lack of participation. So, if you are interested in any tours please make your reservations early. Thank you!*

RESERVE EARLY



### Our first Multi-Day Tour of 2022!

Our customers enjoyed three days visiting historic sites on our Presidential Homes of Virginia tour. Tour attractions included George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens, Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, Michie Tavern, James Monroe's Highland, Charlottesville Historic Downtown Mall, and James Madison's Montpelier.

