

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[April 4, 2024]

GMT Announces New Fare Resumption Date

[Burlington, VT] - Green Mountain Transit (GMT), a leading provider of public transportation services in Vermont, announces that public bus fares will resume on Chittenden County buses on May 20, 2024.

The new system is a significant advancement the fare collection system, marking a transformative moment for both the agency and its ridership. The comprehensive upgrade, coupled with the introduction of new payment alternatives, reaffirms GMT's commitment to enhancing the overall transit experience and embracing innovation to better serve the community as they return to fare collection.

The new system, called **Ride Ready by GMT**, will increase non-cash payment options, increase the speed of payment onboarding, and limit the daily and monthly costs to individual riders through a capping system.

Key highlights of the Ride Ready system update include:

1. Ride Ready by GMT app: Beginning Wednesday, April 10, 2024, GMT will offer a mobile ticketing app, allowing riders to manage their fare payment on the go. The Ride Ready app will also feature some trip planning features to help you plan your trip!

2. Smart Fare Cards: Beginning Monday, April 15, 2024, GMT will introduce smart fare cards equipped with RFID technology. These reloadable cards provide commuters with a hassle-free way to pay fares, eliminating the need for cash and reducing waste associated with disposable tickets.

3. Contactless Payment Solutions: GMT now offers riders the convenience of contactless payment options, allowing for seamless transactions using contactless credit/debit cards and mobile payment platforms, like Apple Pay and Google Pay. This advancement not only simplifies the boarding process but also promotes a safer and more hygienic commuting experience.

4. Enhanced Fare Validation: The updated system incorporates advanced validation mechanisms to ensure fare compliance and deter fraudulent



activities. This added layer of security enhances the integrity of the fare collection process, fostering trust and accountability within the transit system.

"When a decision was made to return to fares, we knew we had to give our riders an improved experience," said Clayton Clark, General Manager at Green Mountain Transit. "Modernizing our fare operations increases convenience, improves timeliness, and offers price protections for nearly all our riders."

For more information about Green Mountain Transit and its fare collection services, visit <u>https://ridegmt.com/fare-resumption/</u>

Contact: Jamie Smith Director of Planning and Marketing <u>jamie@ridegmt.com</u> 802-540-1098