

**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Township assumes ownership of Town Center Trolley operations**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (October 21, 2020) – The Woodlands Township has assumed ownership of the Town Center Trolleys from the Brazos Transit District and has brought the operations in-house. All trolley operations and maintenance staff are now Township employees.

“The trolley service is part of the overall transportation and Waterway corridor operations and experience,” said Gordy Bunch, Chairman of the Board of The Woodlands Township. “It integrates well with our Town Center and Hughes Landing programs and services that The Woodlands Township handles on a daily basis.”

Chairman Bunch said one of the major focuses of The Woodlands Township is to run a safe and dependable trolley operation, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As we move into the holidays, we hope our residents and visitors will take advantage of being able to park their car in one location and use the trolley to get to other locations in the Town Center,” he said. “Most importantly, though, we want our visitors and guests know that we’re operating with very strong safety protocols.”

The Woodlands Township has launched a new video and social media campaign called #SitSafe, focusing on the use of sanitization, personal protection equipment and social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health of Township Transit riders. The #SitSafe program includes a number of steps for passenger safety:

- **Sanitization:** Trolleys will be wiped with disinfectants in the middle of the service day and will undergo a thorough cleaning process at the end of each day. We will continue to maintain thorough and frequent cleaning schedules on our trolleys for the safety of our passengers.



- **Personal Protective Equipment:** When riding The Woodlands Express or Trolleys, you will notice our drivers are wearing face coverings, and we require passengers to wear them as well.
- **Social Distancing:** Each trolley passenger capacity is limited to provide spacing amongst our riders. If the trolley is at capacity, download the Ride Systems App and select “The Woodlands Township” to track the next arriving trolley in real time. The app is available for download from both the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Township Deputy Director of Community Services Ruthanne Haut says, “We are excited for this opportunity to expand the Transportation and Infrastructure Department by welcoming these new employees to our team.” Haut goes on to state, “We thank Brazos Transit District for their many years of support and providing this iconic service for Town Center and Hughes Landing area.”

Residents, visitors and employees to local businesses can park once and hop aboard the free trolley to popular retail, entertainment, and office locations. The trolleys provide transit service along an approximate 4.1-mile route connecting The Woodlands Mall, Market Street, Town Center, The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands Waterway and Hughes Landing restaurants, hotels, businesses and residences.

For more information on The Woodlands Town Center Trolley, including operation times and routes, please visit the Transportation page on the Township website at [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov) and to learn more about the program and to view the latest #SitSafe videos, please visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/sitsafe](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/sitsafe).



*The Woodlands Township has assumed ownership of the Town Center Trolleys from the Brazos Transit District and will bring all operations in-house by welcoming the public transit professionals from the District as new employees to our Township team.*