



Proclamation



TRANSIT DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY AND CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT OPERATOR AND MAINTENANCE TEAM MEMBER APPRECIATION WEEK

WHEREAS, local and regional public transportation are necessities for our community; and

WHEREAS, Chapel Hill Transit operates the second largest transit system in North Carolina as a partnership between the Town of Carrboro, the Town of Chapel Hill, and the University of North Carolina, providing fare-free, 7-day-a-week transit service to help our communities and the university meet our transportation, sustainability, and equity goals; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, GoTriangle extended regional transit service into Carrboro and, since that time, has operated weekday service between downtown Carrboro and downtown Durham; and

WHEREAS, transit operators and maintenance team members work hard each day to help customers access jobs, health care, school, community services, and many other personal, social, and civic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency has reinforced how vital public transit is to our communities; and throughout the pandemic, transit team members have worked on the front lines, adapting to new work environments and safety requirements and helping customers to safely get to their essential destinations while also responding to significant changes in their own lives; and

WHEREAS, transit team members start their days before the sun rises and finish them long after the sun is set, including working weekends and on or around holidays, while many of us are spending time with family and friends; and

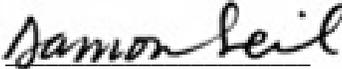
WHEREAS, in addition to meeting stringent safety requirements, transit team members must demonstrate customer service, patience, empathy, and understanding to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for community members and visitors; and

WHEREAS, communities across the United States observe Transit Driver Appreciation Day each year on March 18; and Chapel Hill Transit celebrates Operator and Maintenance Team Member Appreciation Week during the week of March 18 to recognize team members' dedication, hard work, and the essential services they provide;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Seils, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 18, 2022, to be **TRANSIT DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY** and March 14 to 18, 2022, to be **CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT OPERATOR AND MAINTENANCE TEAM MEMBER APPRECIATION WEEK IN CARRBORO**. I encourage all residents to incorporate public transit into their transportation routines; to become advocates for local and regional public transit; and, most important, to thank our local and regional bus operators and maintenance team members at every opportunity.

This the 15th day of March 2022.




Damon Seils, Mayor