



# Proclamation

## Bus Operator Appreciation Day

WHEREAS, local and regional public transit 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, bus operators work hard each day to help transit users access jobs, health care, school, community services, and many other personal, social, and civic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency reinforced how vital public transit is to our communities; and throughout the emergency, bus operators worked on the front lines, adapting to new work environments and safety requirements and helping transit users safely reach essential destinations while also responding to significant changes in their own lives; and

WHEREAS, bus operators 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, bus operators 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 to recognize transit operators' 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, 2023, to be Bus Operator Appreciation Day in Carrboro. I encourage all residents and visitors 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 at every opportunity.

This the 16th day of March, 2023.

*Damon Seils*

Damon Seils, Mayor

