

**PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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Columbia Area Transit Announces By-Reservation Medical Shuttle to Portland

Columbia Area Transit (CAT) announces a new By-Reservation Medical Shuttle Service from the Gorge to seven medical services facilities in the Portland Metro area: Providence Portland Medical Center, Legacy Emanuel, Good Samaritan Main Hospital, OHSU Hospital, Veteran's Main Hospital, Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center, and Indian Health Services. The purpose of trips on the CAT Medical Shuttle can be to access medical services or to visit loved ones who are receiving medical care in Portland.

The service is available from Hood River and Wasco Counties, with connections for individuals who live in Skamania and Klickitat Counties. Operating days & times are Tuesday and Thursday from 7:15am-5:30pm, with the earliest drop off in Portland at 9:45am and latest pickup in Portland at 3:30pm.

CAT Medical Shuttle individual fares are \$20 each way. (This fare does not include transit to or from the pick-up points in Wasco or Hood River Counties. Other CAT transit options are available for transport to the CAT Medical Shuttle pick-up points; visit rideCATbus.com for more information.)

Riders may book up to two months in advance but should schedule at least two weeks in advance. Bookings made less than two weeks in advance are dependent on driver availability. If the passenger requires a caretaker, the caretaker may ride for free.

To schedule a ride in Hood River County call CAT at (541) 386-4202, and in The Dalles call The Link at (541) 296-7595. For more information and route schedules and times please visit rideCATbus.org.

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1. Hood River County Transportation District provides public transportation in Hood River County under the name of Columbia Area Transit (CAT). We are a Special District organized under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 267. Our major sources of funding include grants from the Federal Transit Administration, diverse sources from the State of Oregon, local property tax, and user fees.
2. The District was formed by a vote of Hood River County Residents in 1993.