

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SunLine Transit Agency to Make Masks Optional, Effective Immediately**

*(Thousand Palms)* Effective immediately, SunLine Transit Agency will make masks optional on the fixed route network (SunBus), paratransit (SunDial), microtransit (SunRide), and 10 Commuter Link services for its customers. This change comes as a result of the Transportation Security Administration suspending enforcement yesterday, while the Biden Administration reviews a federal judge's ruling.

"Our mask mandate has been based on federal guidance," said CEO/General Manager Lauren Skiver. "We will continue to monitor this situation as it unfolds, but masks will be optional for customers until further notice."

SunLine Transit Agency still highly recommends customers wear a mask while riding public transportation. Updates will be provided as new information becomes available.

For more information, please visit [SunLine.org](http://SunLine.org).

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***About SunLine Transit Agency***

SunLine provides public transit services in California's Coachella Valley spanning 1,120 mile-service area and carrying approximately 4.2 million riders. It has pioneered zero-emission bus deployments, particularly for hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (FCEB). In 1993, SunLine's Board adopted a voluntary policy of pursuing alternative fuel solutions that provide the lowest possible emissions, which led to SunLine becoming the first transit agency in the state to convert its entire fleet to compressed natural gas (CNG). SunLine is committed to transitioning its entire bus fleet to zero-emission by 2035. SunLine Refueled is a multi-tiered initiative that brings exciting new transportation alternatives to the Coachella Valley. To learn more about SunLine Transit Agency's services and policies, go to [SunLine.org](http://SunLine.org).