Text consolidated by Valsts valodas centrs (State Language Centre) with amending regulations of:

15 May 2020 [shall come into force from 16 May 2020].

If a whole or part of a paragraph has been amended, the date of the amending regulation appears in square brackets at the end of the paragraph. If a whole paragraph or sub-paragraph has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted paragraph or sub-paragraph.

Republic of Latvia

Order of the Minister for Transport No. 01-03/112

Rīga, 08 May 2020

**Regarding Precautionary Measures in Public Transport**

1. Based on the authorisation provided to the Minister for Transport under Sub-paragraph 4.37 of Cabinet Order No. 103 of 12 March 2020, Regarding the Declaration of Emergency Situation (wording that is in force from 12 May 2020) in order to ensure epidemiologically safe use of public transport, measures for the use of public transport (Annex) shall be approved.

1.1 Carriers may, in addition to the measures referred to in Annex to this Order, take other precautionary measures if they do not affect the number of passengers serviced by public transport.

[*15 May 2020*]

2. The costs and losses related to the introduced precautionary measures shall be reimbursed in accordance with the procedures specified in Cabinet Regulation No. 435 of 28 July 2015, Procedures by which the Losses and Expenditures Related to the Provision of Public Transport Services shall be Determined and Reimbursed, and the Tariff for Public Transport Service shall be Determined.

[*15 May 2020*]

2.1 In contracts for public procurement of the provision of public transport services which have been concluded in accordance with the provisions of the Public Procurement Law, the expenditures related to the introduced precautionary measures shall be reimbursed separately by complying with that specified in the Public Procurement Law.

[*15 May 2020*]

3. Carriers shall be informed of this Order and the execution thereof as regards carriages in city routes shall be controlled by local governments of the respective cities, but as regards routes of regional significance – *valsts sabiedrība ar ierobežotu atbildību “Autotransporta direkcija”* [State limited liability company Road Transport Administration].

3.1 The precautionary measures specified in Annex to this Order shall, as far as applicable, must be suggested to be followed also in international passenger transport by road and railway, and also in occasional carriage of passengers.

[*15 May 2020*]

4. The Order shall come into force on 12 May 2020 and shall remain in force for the period of validity of Sub-paragraph 4.37 of Cabinet Order No. 103 of 12 March 2020, Regarding the Declaration of Emergency Situation.

5. With the coming into force of this Order, the Order of the Minister for Transport No. 01-03/79 of 26 March 2020, Regarding the Social Distancing and Precautionary Measures in the Public Transport, is repealed.

Minister T. Linkaits

**Annex**

Order of the Minister for Transport

Regarding Precautionary Measures in Public Transport

**Precautionary Measures in Public Transport**

[*15 May 2020*]

**I. Measures for carriers**

1. The number of passengers must be regularly monitored, and vehicles with sufficient capacity must be assigned for servicing the routes in order to prevent crowding in the interior of the vehicle.

2. The use of the buses of category M2 (minibuses) must be limited as much as possible for the carriage of passengers. In the buses of category M2, passengers may not use standing places.

3. Passengers must be informed of the requirement to use mouth and nose covers. In vehicles where the entry is organised through front doors, the driver can refuse entry to such passengers who do not have mouth and nose covers. Vehicle drivers and train conductors may make remarks to passengers and request them to use mouth and nose covers. Measures for controlling the compliance with this requirement in city public transport shall be specified by the local governments of republic cities.

3.2 Vehicle drivers, train conductors and transport controllers may request passengers who use fare reliefs to take off mouth and nose covers for the verification of person.

[*15 May 2020*]

4. Where possible, the seating of passengers in the interior of the vehicle must be organised so that the passengers would first take seats alternately or by skipping one seat, and, where the number of passengers allow, the passengers would, while sitting or standing, maintain a 2-meter distance (except for members of one household and passengers with children).

5. It must be ensured that the driver, while fulfilling work duties, is distanced from passengers, but in vehicles where the driver’s cab is not separated from the interior – that at least the first row of seats is not available to passengers.

6. Those seats which may not be taken must be visually marked or otherwise demarcated.

7. Passengers must be invited to use the possibilities for remote ticket purchasing as much as possible. The possibilities for passengers to purchase transport tickets from the driver or conductor must be reduced. Where this is not possible, the driver or conductor must wear rubber gloves for the use of electronic tools, issuing of tickets and receipt of payment, or they must disinfect their hands immediately thereafter.

8. Visible or audible information must be provided to passengers regarding the precautionary measures in vehicles, on websites, and at stops, bus stations, train stations etc.

9. Daily processing of the surfaces in the interior and cab of a vehicle with disinfectants must be ensured.

10. The driver must be provided with rubber gloves, as well as a hand sanitiser or a possibility to disinfect hands before and after performance of the journey.

11. Drivers and conductors must be instructed on these measures, and other parties involved must be informed thereof.

**II. Measures for the organisers of carriages**

12. Conditions of this order must be taken into account in planning journeys along routes and, if necessary, additional journeys must be provided.

13. The possibility to fully or partially waive the application of fare relief must be assessed in order to ensure the execution of this Order.

**III. Measures for Passengers**

14. Before travelling by public transport, the need for such travel must be evaluated, and public transport should only be used in important cases (to travel to work, shop, pharmacy or other visits and therefrom).

15. When possible, the travel should be done at a time when the public transport is used by fewer passengers.

16. Those passengers who correspond to the group subject to the risk of infection must evaluate the possibility to use the public transport only in case of absolute necessity, and as much as possible use it outside the peak periods – from 10:00 o’clock until 15:00 o’clock.

17. Public transport should not be used for travelling short distances, other modes of transport should be chosen.

18. Ticket for travelling by public transport should be purchased before the travel using the remote ticket purchasing possibilities as much as possible.

19. While using public transport, mouth and nose covers (respirators, masks, scarfs, shawls or similar) must be used.

19.1 Upon a request of the vehicle driver, train conductor and transport controller, passengers who use fare reliefs must take off the mouth and nose cover for the verification of person.

[*15 May 2020*]

20. In the interior of a vehicle, first those seats must be taken which are located alternately or one seat being omitted from the seats already occupied. When entering and exiting, and choosing a standing place, 2-meter distance must be maintained (except for members of one household and passengers with children), to the extent possible.

21. Where necessary, other passengers must be informed of the imposed precautionary measures, and the driver, conductor and responsible State institutions must be informed of the breach of these requirements.