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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hobbs Express to Close Due to COVID-19 Exposures

Hobbs Express runs an essential service to the residents and businesses of Hobbs, so it is with difficulty the City of Hobbs announces a temporary suspension of the public transportation service along with closure of the Hobbs Express facility on Wednesday, August 25th due to a possible COVID-19 exposure at the facility. The facility is located at 424 West Broadway Street, Hobbs, New Mexico 88240. This suspension and closure are the result of an abundance of caution and follows the City's established COVID Safe Practices. The safety of employees and customers alike is of paramount importance during this time.

Public transportation for previously scheduled demand response-paratransit bus service appointments is planned to restart on Thursday and Friday, August 26th and 27th with new requests not being accepted at this time; this is a curb-to-curb transportation service for members of the Hobbs community to employment, medical care, shopping, and education and recreation facilities; it is often utilized by healthcare patients and those with disabilities, thus critical for their treatments and appointments.

Additionally, Hobbs Express will provide student drop-offs to their previously scheduled programs at the Hobbs Boys and Girls Club on Thursday and Friday, as agreed to with the Hobbs Boys and Girls Club and Hobbs Municipal Schools. Parents of participating students have been notified.

The City of Hobbs sincerely apologizes to the community for any inconvenience this may cause, but the decision was made in an effort to protect the health and safety of both our employees and members of the public. Future updates will be made public as more information is gathered.

City Manager Manny Gomez stated, "The decision to immediately suspend public transportation to our residents of Hobbs was not made lightly but is critical in order to protect our employees and the public. With local healthcare facilities surpassing capacity, our organization is committed to doing all we can to slow down the increasing speed of the spread of COVID-19."

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