

**Contacts:**

Bill Kirk, Spokesperson

The Rapid  
[bkirk@ridetherapid.org](mailto:bkirk@ridetherapid.org)616.774.1167

Steve Kelso, Marketing and Communications Manager

Kent County Health Department

[Steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:Steve.kelso@kentcountymi.gov)

616.202.8376

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 19, 2021

**Rapid Central Station Will Host Mobile Vaccine Unit on August 23**

*The Rapid is partnering with the Kent County Health Department to provide access to COVID-19 vaccination at Rapid Central Station on Monday, August 23*

**GRAND RAPIDS, MI –** On Monday, August 23, 2021, the Kent County Health Department’s mobile COVID-19 vaccination clinic will be at Rapid Central Station from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Kent County Health Department nursing staff will be administering Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson vaccines at the clinic. Appointments are not required and there is no charge for the vaccine.

The mobile vaccine unit will be located in the parking lot on Grandville Avenue in front of Rapid Central Station.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently raised the level of COVID-19 infection in Kent County to ‘high’ from ‘substantial’. In addition, President Biden's administration recently confirmed that it plans to extend requirements for individuals to wear masks on buses through January 18, 2022, to address ongoing COVID-19 risks.

“The COVID 19 vaccines that we are offering are safe, effective and free,” says Mary Wisinski, Immunizations Supervisor at the Kent County Health Department. “Unfortunately our vaccination rates have slowed since those early days of mass vaccination clinics. We appreciate The Rapid for helping us as we continue to focus our efforts on smaller clinics like this one.”

“We’re very excited to partner with the Kent County Health Department to provide this opportunity to get vaccinated for free and without an appointment at Rapid Central Station,” said Deb Prato, CEO of The Rapid. “Just like the free shuttle for the West Michigan Vaccine Clinic we ran earlier this year, we’re committed to doing our part to provide easy access to this service that will create better outcomes for our community.”

The Rapid continues to remind all riders and team members to follow all current CDC guidelines and that masks are still required to ride The Rapid.

*###*

***About The Rapid:*** *The Rapid was established in 2000 and provides public transportation services for the Grand Rapids metro area and beyond. In 2019, The Rapid provided 10.5 million rides. Beyond its fixed routes, The Rapid also operates demand-response services for people with disabilities, rideshare programs, and other programs that keep West Michigan moving forward. Stay informed by following The Rapid at ridetherapid.org, facebook.com/therapid, twitter.com/therapid, and Instagram.com/ridetherapid.*