

# COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

## PROCLAMATION

### Transit Employee Appreciation Day: March 18, 2026

Public transit connects people to opportunity. Every day, transit employees help residents reach work, school, healthcare, family, and community spaces that make life possible and meaningful. In Columbia Heights and across Minnesota, transit is more than transportation – it is a public service that strengthens equity, access, and belonging.

Transit workers make our communities safer, healthier, and more connected. They serve in all weather and under demanding conditions with professionalism, patience, and dedication. Their work expands mobility for seniors, students, workers, and families, ensuring that everyone can participate in community life with dignity.

Public transit also plays a vital role in building a more sustainable future. By reducing congestion and greenhouse gas emissions, transit employees contribute to climate resilience and environmental stewardship, helping protect the health of future generations.

Columbia Heights recognizes the essential role of transit workers at Metro Transit, the Metropolitan Council, and transit systems across Minnesota. Their commitment to public service reflects the values of care, reliability, and shared responsibility that define strong communities. Our city looks forward to the planned Bus Rapid Transit improvements along Central Avenue in partnership with MnDOT, paired with corridor safety redesign and pedestrian upgrades that will make travel safer, calmer, and more accessible for everyone who walks, rolls, bikes or rides transit.

**Now, therefore,** I, Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor of Columbia Heights, do hereby proclaim March 18, 2026, as **Transit Employee Appreciation Day** in the City of Columbia Heights and encourage all residents to thank and recognize the transit workers who keep our community moving while helping build a safer, more connected future.

---

Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor  
MM, DD, 2026