



Shelby Public Transit
Policy Manual
413 S. Vandemark Road, Sidney, OH 45365

SUBJECT: SEATBELT POLICY

SECTION: SAFETY

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2008

REPLACES: January 30, 2006

APPROVED BY: Sidney City Council

APPROVAL DATE: October 2007

DIRECTIVE:

To comply with all Ohio traffic laws requiring vehicle occupants to wear safety belts.

PROCEDURE:

Shelby Public Transit Employees

All Shelby Public Transit employees are required to wear safety belts while operating or riding as a passenger in any City vehicle. This includes wearing the shoulder belt that is a part of the manufacturer's seat belt assembly.

Passengers

While Ohio law requires seat belts to be worn only by front seat passengers, Shelby Public Transit requires seat belts for all passengers regardless of age, disability, or location in the vehicle.

Each passenger must have his/her safety belt securely fastened before the vehicle will be permitted to begin movement.

Passengers seated in wheelchairs will be secured via an approved four-point restraint system. (Please see the Wheelchair Securement policy located in the Safety section of this manual for all approved securement devices.)

Children

Children under age four (4) and/or under forty (40) pounds must be properly secured in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in a child restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Parents will be responsible for providing a child restraint seat and for properly securing the child restraint system in a passenger seat, then securing the child in the restraint seat. The driver will then ensure that the child is appropriately secured before placing the vehicle in motion.

Exceptions for the required use of seatbelts.

If the seatbelt is not long enough to be secured, manufacture's seatbelt extensions will be used. If the extensions do not correct the situation, the passenger will not be required to wear a seatbelt. The driver should document on his/her manifest that the seatbelt could not be secured. Every effort will be made to resolve this situation.

Passengers who state they have a medical condition which prohibits the use of seatbelts, will not be required to wear the seatbelt. This must be documented on the driver's manifest and approved by the Transit Manager or Operations Supervisor.

The scheduler will enter the information under special needs for future trips. Do not ask the passenger the disability or medical condition that prevents the use of a seatbelt.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

It is the responsibility of all Shelby Public Transit employees to ensure that safety belts are worn at all times while in any City vehicle. Drivers will be responsible for ensuring that all passengers are wearing safety belts in accordance with this policy.