

## Policies regarding Multiple Service Animals

Information compiled June 11, 2007

**The Question:** What would you do if you were to get more than one service animal on the bus?

**Ben Franklin Transit** says... Let them on.

**Columbia County Public Transportation** says... Allow it, as long as they are both kept in control by the owner.

**CUBS** says... This has never happened.

**Everett Transit** says... We allow more than one service animal. It is the owners responsibility to keep the animal under control and out of the way.

**Grays Harbor Transit** says... We have had several occasions where two service animals are on the bus together and have had no problems, if it's a true service animal they should be trained to ignore each other. Where there might be a problem would be with a companion animal which is not normally trained. We have not run into such problems; normally our companion animals are small lap dogs.

**Intercity Transit** says... In the event we get more than one service animal on our bus at the same time, we do accommodate each of them. It is up to the owner/handler of the animal to maintain control of his/her service animal at all times. If one owner does not maintain control, they can be removed. The owner/handler is responsible for determining the best way to load and be seated, as well. Easter Seals Project Action has a great .pdf explaining a lot about service animals. Here's the link:

[http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/DocServer/Service\\_Animal\\_FAQs.pdf?docID=32703](http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/DocServer/Service_Animal_FAQs.pdf?docID=32703)

**Link Transit** says... Not a problem as long as each passenger is in control of the service animal and the animal does not occupy a seat.

**Mason Transit** says... Our policy is the same as Everett Transit's. If any animal exhibits aggressive or otherwise inappropriate behavior, the owner will be asked to remove the animal.

**Pacific Transit** says... Our policy is the same as Everett Transit's.

**Pullman Transit** says... To my knowledge this has never happened to us or been a concern. However if this did occur and there was a conflict between the two of them we would revert to the ADA clause that it is the owners responsibility to have control of their service animal. We would determine which service animal was causing the problem and require the owner to separate themselves from the area and catch the next bus.

**Skagit Transit** says... I don't believe there is any ADA information regarding a limit to the number of service animals on the bus. Everyone is welcome, as long as they do not cause a disruption in the service; if someone did cause a disruption in service, they would be asked to exit the coach. Therefore, provided there was space and the service animals are under the control of their owners as required, I don't believe that we would need to do anything except provide the ride. Just as in a case with someone in a wheelchair, if the securement area is full and there isn't space to safely accommodate them, they would be asked to wait for the next bus.

**Twin Transit** says... We allow more than one animal, space permitting. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the animal is well behaved and under control on the bus. If there were problems with the animal's behavior, then both owner and animal would be put off the bus. This hasn't happened yet, though.

**Valley Transit** says... We have not encountered this situation before. I am sure it could be a real problem if one service animal was a mongoose and the other a snake! If there was a problem between the two animals we would probably have a Road Supervisor meet the bus and transport one of them. If it was a continual problem we would have to work something out with the service animal owners.

**Whatcom Transit** says... We do not address multiple service animals in our policy but as long as each animal is properly under control, we would let them ride. I don't think the ADA allows us to do different. If a service animal is not behaving properly the passenger has a choice of either removing the animal from the bus and continuing to ride or both the animal and passenger must remove themselves from the bus.

**Yakima Transit** says... It has never come up in Yakima. But I'm sure we would allow more than one service animal.