

## Policies regarding Right Side Driving

Information compiled March 23, 2007

**The Question:** What policies do you have regarding driving near parked cars on the right side.

**CUBS** says... We do not have a policy.

**Everett Transit** says... We do not have a set policy regarding driving around parked cars, however, we do address driving around parked cars in our training program. Basically we teach our operators to allow approximately 3-4 feet of safety cushion whenever possible driving next to parked cars. Also, we teach operators to scan their mirrors every 5-7 seconds paying close attention to their safety zone whenever in or around highly congested areas with vehicles on both sides of the bus.

**Jefferson Transit** says... I'm not sure how to reply to this. Our operators have to drive with parked cars to their right every run they go downtown Port Townsend and again as they return to our Park and Ride. We sometimes get stuck on route if delivery trucks fail to park properly – in that case we just sit and wait. We train operators to be mindful of occupants in parked vehicles who may suddenly open their doors, or pull out into traffic. And, of course, they are trained not to hit the cars with their mirrors. However, we have no real policy.

**Kitsap Transit** says... We really don't have a policy with regard to parked cars. We have to pass parked cars all the time. We do cover in our driver instruction the potential dangers associated with cars parked on the right.

**Skagit Transit** says... As the Trainer for I use the recommendations by both the National Safety Council and the Transportation Safety Institute. "Try to maintain a 4-foot right side clearance."

**Pacific Transit** says... We don't have one about driving next to parked cars.

**Twin Transit** says... We don't have a written policy regarding this specific situation; our general defensive driving rules encompass this. Drivers are expected to keep enough distance from all parked objects to allow for mirror clearance. Also, if the parked car creates a one-lane situation on a two-lane road, drivers are expected to use extreme caution, or avoid driving in that area.

**Valley Transit** says.. We do not have a specific policy regarding driving near parked cars on the right side. We use defensive driving procedures and instruct our operators to give as much safety cushion as possible and what to look out for.