

Policies regarding Shatter Proof Options For Shelters

Information compiled July 6, 2006

The Question: With increasing vandalism to our shelters, we are looking for alternative, shatter proof options. Do any properties use metal screens or panels in their shelters instead of glass or Plexiglas? If so, do you consider this a cost-effective alternative, to protect the shelter from vandalism?

Ben Franklin Transit says... All of our shelters use tempered glass or Plexiglas.

Clallam Transit says... CTS does not use metal screens or panels.

CUBS says... We would also like to know the answer to the question below. Our shelters are Plexiglas and we have a real problem with vandalism, also.

Everett Transit says... We only use glass or Plexiglas except in situations where the shelter is elevated and we are unable to keep glass or Plexiglas in the frame. In these cases, where someone might fall off the elevation behind or to the side of the shelter, we have added metal fencing material (click here to see attached photos). The fencing material was added by a local contractor and has worked out fine. However, we have not done this to any of our new aluminum shelters, just our old steel shelters.

Grays Harbor Transit says... Sorry, we do not use anything other than the Plexiglas, I would be interested in hearing if someone uses something better.

Intercity Transit says... I have heard that Pierce uses some shelters with half panels in them, like solid on the bottom and glass on the top. Someone also told me that they saw some shelters with the perforated panels down around Hayward Calif. But I have not seen any of these around here.

Island Transit says... We use a safety glass that is provided by the manufacturer of the shelters. When we have to replace a panel because of damage we use the same type of safety glass.

Jefferson Transit says... We have found no other options except the Plexiglas. If the problem is persistent... we pull the shelter.

Kitsap Transit says... Due to safety reasons we continue to stick with safety glass and Plexiglas. What we do is try and design shelters that have smaller panels (basically a grid

system), so when one is damaged or vandalized, we do not have to replace the entire side, front or rear section.

Link Transit says... In regards to your question I have no good solution for you. We have tried going to Lexan but the vandals just scratched and burned marks in them, plus after a time the UV rays degrade the Lexan and leave it obscured. Lexan's cost is about three times as much as glass so it wasn't very cost effective. Panels as an alternative brings up the sight visibility problem with law enforcement agencies, installing panels could create hiding places for would-be criminals. I have never considered screens as this would not protect against blowing rain or snow thus defeating the purpose of the shelter (in my mind). If you have any success in your quest for alternatives I would be interested in your results.

Pacific Transit says... We use Plexiglas and replace as necessary.

Pullman Transit says... All of our shelters have Plexiglas. We do not have much of a vandalism problem. When we do it's not usually an on going issue only an individual occurrence.

Skagit Transit says... We use both glass and Plexiglas in our shelters. No metal panels or screens..... yet.

Spokane Transit says... We don't use metal screens but have found polycarbonate windows/panels to be a cost-effective solution. Our Maintenance Department reports that none of the polycarbonate panels have shattered. The polycarbonate panels are also relatively easy to clean and repair (they use denatured alcohol to remove paint). However, polycarbonate is easier to scratch than glass.

Valley Transit says... We use safety glass in all our shelters. They look great but can shatter when impacted hard enough. We used to have vandal proof plastic panels in some of our shelters. They were very durable, however, they could be burned with cigarettes and scratched with knives. They were also hard to see through. After a while they would start to look pretty bad so we discontinued using them.

Yakima Transit says... Do any properties use metal screens or panels?

NO