



# ASK Transit

## Inquiry on Reviewing Video

Information compiled on May 18, 2010

**The Question:** For those of you with digital recording systems in your buses, how much of the tape do you review and subsequently save once you find the event you are looking for (i.e., how many minutes pre- and post-incident). Was this negotiated with your union or did you adopt this as an internal procedure?

**Asotin County PTBA** says... Not applicable.

**Ben Franklin Transit** says... We keep as short of piece as possible. The storage these videos takes is big and takes a lot of room to store.

**Columbia County Public Transportation** says... We are still in the process of developing our policy.

**Community Transit** says... The standard is to capture 10 minutes pre and post event. If I need more video for an event, I will ask for more time to captured. This is an internal procedure that is not negotiated, that would be bad.

**C-Tran** says... We have a letter of understanding with ATU 757 that states that we will only use the recorded information specific to an incident. Usually this requires a minimal about before and after an event. No specific time frame is mentioned in the agreement.

If we are investigating a liability claim we collect the recording from the moment the passenger boards the bus until they conclude their ride.

**Grant Transit** says... We review and save footage deemed relevant to the investigation on a case by case basis. Most often this results in recordings beginning 10+- seconds prior to and after an alleged event but may include additional footage if it provides details of what may have contributed to the event or opportunities to have avoided the event. This is an internal procedure; our drivers are not in a union.

**Grays Harbor Transit** says... In our MOU with the union it states that incidents will be copied 30 seconds prior to the incident and 30 seconds after, for accidents they are copied one minute prior to and 30 seconds after the driver is released from the accident scene.

---

**ASK Transit is a research service managed within the Washington State Transit Portal**

The Washington State Transit Portal is brought to you by the Washington State Transit Association and the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool as a joint member service.



## ASK Transit

**Island Transit** says... We go back and review the event closest to the time frame that the event happened. We will record more if there is something that we feel needs to be addressed or could have led up to that event. We then burn the exact time onto disc and save the discs forever up to this point. Some discs are used as training. We are not union and every operator has signed an authorization to release for the showing of any videos taken from Island Transit's property.

**Jefferson Transit** says... We do not have digital recording systems.

**Kitsap Transit** says... At this time, we do not have a recording system of any type in or on our buses.

**King County Metro** says... The onboard DVR's are governed by an SOP which describes that any reported security and safety incident may be retrieved.

The ways incidents are reported are as follows

Security Incident Report  
Coordinator Service Record Camera Report

Also, we receive requests for incident retrieval from Transit Safety, King County Prosecutors Office, King County Risk Management, and outside Police jurisdictions.

In addition we have received numerous public disclosure requests.

As for review typically I review all reported incidents, except those where time does not permit and the video is going to another party to review, i.e. and police department.

The amount of time retrieved is typically 45 minutes before reported time of incident and 45 minutes after. All vide retrieved is copied onto a master DVD/CD which is kept in a secured video forensics lab in the Transit Police Office.

The retrieval was not negotiated with the Union. The only issue negotiated with the union was the use for discipline reasons of surveillance video, which is restricted to what is classified as a major infraction.

**Link Transit** says... We do *not have fleet cameras and recording devices*.

**Pacific Transit** says... We basically just review the portion covering the incident. We decide how much we review internally.

---

**ASK Transit is a research service managed within the Washington State Transit Portal**

The Washington State Transit Portal is brought to you by the Washington State Transit Association and the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool as a joint member service.



# ASK Transit

**Pierce Transit** says... We do not have cameras on our buses at this time.

**Pullman Transit** says... Below is the language that we have agreed upon with the union

### **DVRS RECORD REQUEST**

- **All fields must be complete before request is granted.**
- **Recording will start for complaints; 30 seconds prior to the incident time and end 30 seconds after the incident.**
- **For accidents the recording will start 1 minute before the incident time and continue until 30 seconds after the vehicle is released from the area.**

**Skagit Transit** says... We do not currently have cameras on our buses. We are interested in the same information since we are requesting funding for cameras in the future.

**Valley Transit** says... We only save the actual event and anything related to it. This is an internal procedure.

**Yakima Transit** says... We don't have a set amount of time we review or record when we have an event. We do try and get all the views of the event from different angles and cameras, starting with when the person doing the "event" comes into view until it's over and any important post event action.

When we first got our cameras we talked with the union about having cameras on the buses and what they would be used for and did what we said without having to adopt any written procedures.

---

**ASK Transit is a research service managed within the Washington State Transit Portal**

The Washington State Transit Portal is brought to you by the Washington State Transit Association and the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool as a joint member service.