

Transit Tips and Etiquette

While getting started as a first-time transit rider can seem intimidating, it is actually much easier than you might think. The first step is to find the right route. There is a FREE transit trip planner at www.511sd.com that is easy to use and provides quick results. Just type in your starting/ending points and a custom itinerary will be calculated for you. The itinerary includes different travel options, route numbers and maps, the amount of time your trip will take, as well as fare information that details exactly how much the trip will cost. Choose the option that best fits your needs and enjoy a relaxing, cost-effective trip.

Taking transit eliminates parking problems and saves on vehicle wear and tear. Before hopping in a car, why not consider transit for convenient trips to school, shopping, appointments, work, special events, and many other destinations?

Plan ahead. Get to the transit stop at least five to ten minutes before your scheduled departure time so you are sure not to miss your trip.

Pick the right spot. When riding the bus, make certain that you are on the correct side of the street and stand up as the bus approaches to signal that you are ready to be picked up.

Exact change. When riding the bus and paying cash, you must have exact change. Change is not provided by the driver. Obtaining a Compass Card can simplify this transaction. Call 511 and say "Compass" to get information.

Buy a ticket. When riding the Trolley or COASTER and paying cash, you must purchase a ticket before boarding.

Handicapped access. All routes are wheelchair accessible.

Bicycles. Bicycles are allowed on buses (two per bus) as well as the COASTER, SPRINTER, and all Trolley lines.

Be cautious in traffic. Don't run across the street for a bus — and never run in front of a bus. The driver and other motorists may not see you.

Choose a safe location. If possible, wait at a well-lit bus stop or one with other passengers and pedestrians nearby.



Emergencies. In the event of an emergency, a bus driver can radio the control office for help from police, fire, or paramedics. If you need assistance or witness an emergency, ask your operator for help.

Don't block the aisle with strollers or other objects.

Occupy only one seat — don't take up an extra seat with bags or parcels.

Offer priority seating to elderly or disabled riders if you are in good health.

Don't use foul language.

Avoid loud conversations, music, and cell phone calls.

Move to the back of the bus if there is room, rather than clogging the door area.

Avoid eating or drinking on board.

Take all your belongings when you leave, including newspapers and trash.

Don't deface the vehicle.

Exit the rear doors to allow passengers getting on board to use the front.