

July 30, 2018

Exiting Passenger Awareness

Communicate safety awareness to your passengers. As they exit your vehicles at bus stops, let's all remind them to be careful when doing so. Ask them to please go to the nearest crosswalk to cross the street and to please watch for on-coming traffic whenever they cross the street. Remind all passengers not to cross in front of the bus. Our passengers look to you for their safety as they ride on our buses. You have more credibility than you realize in giving passengers safety reminders as they exit our bus. They do and will appreciate your caring about them. Don't be shy about telling your passengers to be careful and to stay safe when exiting our bus.

Review the following before you leave the yard today:

- Most exiting passenger accidents occur when the passenger walks off the bus, and then as a pedestrian bolts out onto the roadway and into the path of an approaching vehicle.
- Pedestrians often misjudge the speed and closeness of oncoming motor vehicles.
- Pedestrians assume oncoming motorists see them and will slow down for them.
- Pedestrians think that if they can see the other driver of a motor vehicle, the other driver must be able to see them.

These kinds of errors in judgment are why pedestrian accidents frequently occur. We should try to anticipate our passengers making these types of pedestrian errors and be prepared to warn them as they exit our bus.

- Always announce to the passenger any items of caution as they exit the bus: sidewalk, uneven curb, potholes, etc...
- Remind them to watch their step and hold the hand rail.
- Ask them to please, if crossing the street:
 - Wait until the bus leaves so they have a full view of their surroundings;
 - Always use the closest crosswalk and not cross in the middle of the street.