

The

VanLink Newsletter



Budget Cuts

As of February 15, 2009 Kitsap Transit routed and *ACCESS* are no longer running Sunday service. We have also limited service to the outlying areas. These cuts may have affected your agencies' participants. VanLink just may be the best transportation to replace these service cuts. VanLink vans are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

VanLink is a program that has helped Kitsap Transit with transportation of those who may otherwise not be able to get to and from work or outings. Please use your vans effectively and efficiently.

Here are some suggestions:

- Plan group trips rather than one passenger at a time. If your passenger does need one on one maybe others could ride with you and go their separate ways when you get to your destination.
- Is another agency going to the same place you are at the same time (ARC, Men's Group etc..)? Maybe you can share the ride.

Watch Your Mileage

A VanLink driver was going from east Bremerton to Port Orchard. The driver drove all the way up to Silverdale to get to Port Orchard. That's right, the driver had no stops to make in Silverdale, they were just taking the participants on a long ride. We must keep joy rides to a minimum. The van needs a destination. I am sure that your participants would enjoy doing somewhere other than riding in the van. These are your tax dollars at work.

Fares

Passenger fares will increase on April 1st. Drivers need to make sure all passengers have a bus pass, or the passenger must pay \$2.00 each way. If one of your passengers is not paying fare please let me know and I will send them a "no pay" letter.



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Maintenance Hours

The Shop hours are listed below.

Monday-Friday: 4:00am-11:30pm

Saturday: 7:00am-5:00pm

Sunday: Closed

Red Light Runners

Yes, those red lights do mean stop. Washington State law requires a vehicle to come to a complete stop even if the driver is going to make a right hand turn. If Kitsap Transit is sent a ticket for a red light runner we will forward the ticket on to the driver who committed the infraction. Kitsap Transit's policy is one red light camera run will be posted in your file. The second one will get you suspended from driving. Please be careful.

Technology

For those of you that have technology in your vans please make sure to use it. Please make sure you are using the passenger cards to enter your passengers. Also don't forget to log them out when they exit the van. I am working very closely with Invers trying to improve what we have.

Saving Suggestions

Please try to help Kitsap Transit save money by sending me your suggestions! We want to be able to keep those vans running.

Accident Kits

Accident Kits were mailed at the beginning of January. Please check your van and make sure you have the new accident kit.

Fuel Cost

Kitsap Transit paid an average of \$1.53 per gallon of diesel fuel for the month of January. This is quite a bit lower than the \$2.66 we were paying a short time ago. As we move into Spring and Summer we know that the price typically goes up. In July of 2008 we were paying \$4.05 per gallon.

Here is a fuel saving tip:

Drive sensibly. Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and braking) wastes gas. It can lower your gas mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by five percent around town. Sensible driving is also safer for you and others, so you may save more than gas money.



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