



Transportation of Animals on Kingston Transit Policy

Administrator: Jeremy DaCosta, Director, Transit Services Approval

Date:

Effective Date:

Approval Authority: City Council

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to allow the transportation of pets in carriers on Kingston Transit. This policy does not impact the use of service animals by persons with disabilities accessing goods and services as regulated by O. Reg. 429/07: Accessibility Standards for Customer Service made under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

2.0 Persons Affected

This policy applies to passengers travelling with a pet on Kingston Transit. This policy does not impact the use of a service animal by a person with a disability. Passengers using service animals will continue to access Kingston Transit in the same manner and are not required to be transported in animal carriers. Service animals can continue to travel on Kingston Transit with or without the use of a carrier as regulated by O. Reg. 429/07: Accessibility Standards for Customer Service made under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

3.0 Definitions

Disability - Any degree of physical disability, infirmity, malformation or disfigurement that is caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, a brain

injury, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical co-ordination, blindness or visual impediment, deafness or hearing impediment, muteness or speech impediment, or physical reliance on a guide dog or other animal or on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device. A condition of mental impairment or a developmental disability. A learning disability, or a dysfunction in one or more of the processes involved in understanding or using symbols or spoken language. A mental disorder, or an injury or disability for which benefits were claimed or received under the insurance plan established under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*.

Service Animal – An animal that is readily apparent as being used by the person for reasons related to their disability with documentation from a regulated health professional confirming the animal is required for reasons related to the disability.

Pet Carrier – Portable crates or cages designed for the transportation of animals from one location to another.

Disturbance – An animal's behaviour that is creating an unsafe situation for bus operators/passengers and/or disturbs the normal enjoyment of Kingston Transit by other passengers. Examples include an animal making noises, such as a dog barking, or an animal that urinates and defecates on a bus.

Off-Peak Periods – Monday to Friday (6:00am to 7:30am / 9:30am to 3:00pm / 6:30pm to 12:00am).

4.0 Policy Statement

Pets Must Be Transported in Small Carriers

Pets must be transported in carriers designed for the transportation of animals. The maximum size / dimensions permitted is 28 in L x 20.5 in W x 21.5 in H. Cardboard boxes and cloth bags are not acceptable carriers for animal transportation and are therefore not permitted.

The pet carrier must always be kept with the passenger and must not occupy a seat

It is the responsibility of a passenger to always keep the pet with them. Pets in carriers must not occupy a seat and must be kept clear of the aisle and doors. When standing, pet carriers must be held by the passenger or placed on the floor at the passengers' feet out of the path of others. Passengers travelling with pets will attempt to do so during off-peak periods when there is typically more capacity available.

Pets being transported must not disrupt the enjoyment of transit service by other passengers or distract the bus operator unnecessarily.

Passengers travelling with a pet must ensure the pet is always in their care and control and must never be removed or be outside of the pet carrier. If a pet causes a disturbance the passenger and their pet may be required to leave the bus, and depending on the circumstances, the pet may be prohibited from using Kingston Transit in the future.

5.0 Related Policies, Legislation and By-laws

O. Reg. 429/07: Accessibility Standards for Customer Service made under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.