



City of Phoenix

PUBLIC TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

NEWS

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PHOENIX PUBLIC TRANSIT SAYS “USE THE RIGHT CUP”

Park-And-Ride event with Weather and Coffee café to promote proper on-bus containers

Phoenix — As the weather becomes cooler, and more passengers grab steaming mugs of coffee to start their day, Phoenix Public Transit is asking passengers to “use the right cup.” The promotion, kicking off 5:30 a.m., Fri., Dec. 14, at the city’s SR-51 Park-And-Ride, is intended to educate riders about allowable liquid containers, and containers that are prohibited. Information about allowable containers will be on display at the Park-And-Ride. Coupons for a free cup of coffee and a discount on a stainless-steel travel mug will also be distributed. They can be redeemed at the nearby “Weather & Coffee” Internet café and drive-thru during and after the promotional event.

Permitted containers are hard containers, made out of plastic or metal, which have resealable lids. Containers that are not allowed have flimsy or no lids, and are made out of glass; Styrofoam or paper, said Deputy Public Transit Director Al Villaverde. The regulations apply to all buses in the transit system, regular fixed-route buses, RAPID™ commuter buses, Dial-A-Ride vans and neighborhood circulators.

“A hot cup of coffee is a great way to start the day, but not if you spill it on a fellow passenger,” added Villaverde. “These rules are intended to keep everyone, safe, happy and dry.”

The regulations led business owner and Valley weatherman Ed Phillips to purchase stainless-steel mugs for Weather & Coffee, the café he operates with his wife, Anne.

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“Since we are right next to the Park-And-Ride, it made sense for us to provide mugs for people who make the morning commute downtown,” Phillips said. “We’d hate for a customer to buy a latte and have to throw it away five minutes later.” The brightly colored Weather and Coffee mugs are branded with “Valley Metro Approved,” to let bus riders and operators know that the containers are safe.

For more information about bus regulations or route information, call Valley Metro Customer Service at 602-253-500, or visit www.valleymetro.org.

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