

DRAFT

CART, STROLLER, AND CARGO RULES

011513a

GUIDELINES FOR SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF CARTS, STROLLERS, CARGO, AND PACKAGES ON TRANSIT VEHICLES

Effective March 1, _____

This NFT Metro policy prohibits any conduct onboard NFT Metro's transit vehicles (buses or light rail vehicle) that may interfere "in any manner whatsoever with the operator or safe operation of any bus or light rail vehicle."

Note: These rules must not in any way supersede the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Rules Applicable to All Transit Vehicles (Buses and Light Rail Vehicles)

1. Drivers and/or NFT Metro personnel will have the authority to determine if a personal utility cart (cart) or stroller is too big to be transported and if freight is too big or dangerous to be transported. Riders are limited to two small carry-on bags/items that can be reasonably carried on their laps when seated and/or stowed safely under, or in front of, their seats. Large bags of recycled cans are not allowed on transit vehicles any time. Carts, strollers, or other utility devices will not be allowed if they:
 - a. Exceed 30" tall, 18" wide, and 18" deep (not including handle and/or wheels)
 - b. Cannot easily/quickly negotiate vehicle door entrances and turns for any reason
 - c. Contain loads that exceed the height and designated capacity of the carrying device
 - d. Include items that are wet, leaking, or considered hazardous for any reason
2. Riders are also limited only to items that can be boarded in a single trip onto the vehicle without assistance from another person. Multiple trips to load bags, carts, strollers, or cargo are not allowed. Loads that require multiple people to maneuver bags, carts, strollers, or cargo on/off the vehicle are also not allowed.
3. Passengers must stay with their carts, strollers, or cargo during the entire trip and hold onto their belongings firmly. Items will only be allowed to be placed on the front wheel well of a bus if the passenger sits adjacent to the item and has a firm grasp on it for the duration of the trip. Multiple items will not be allowed to be stacked in these areas.
4. The interior area near any door shall always be free of carts, strollers, cargo, or other items. Loading items through the rear door of a bus, due to the front being full, is not permitted. Bus drivers and/or NFT Metro personnel shall ask riders in the front to move further back to make room for these riders to board through the front door only.

CART, STROLLER, CARGO RULES (Continued)

5. While operating a walker, cart, or other device, bags and other items must remain in control of the rider at all times. The amount of cargo carried or attached to these devices is limited to what the rider can place securely on his/her lap when seated and must not exceed the maximum cart dimensions above. Packages must be removed and placed on the riders lap if blocking the aisles and/or if requested by the driver. Items or devices allowed on the vehicle should be of such a size and nature that moving them to another area of the vehicle would continue compliance with this policy.

Rules Applicable to Buses Only

6. No more than three (3) different riders with carts, strollers, or other cargo will be allowed on the buses at one time. Riders with carts, strollers, and cargo trying to board when the bus is already at capacity will be required to wait for the next scheduled bus.
7. Riders with carts, strollers, or other cargo should sit in designated "cart/stroller" seating areas when available on vehicles and when space is available. Bus drivers and/or NFT Metro personnel shall request that these riders move to the designated cart/stroller areas, if they are seated in the senior/disabled (S/D) section of the vehicles, in order to make room for wheelchair and other seniors and riders with disabilities.
8. Passengers with strollers must remove the child and collapse the stroller before they board the vehicle. Strollers and empty carts should be properly folded and stored as to not impede the free movement of passengers or the driver in the aisle, doors, or emergency exits and must not present a potential hazard to or danger to riders. If a cart with packages cannot be folded, it must also be stored in a way that meets the same requirements above. It is recommended that parents or guardians of children removed from strollers stay seated with the child in their laps as it may not be safe to be standing.

Exceptions

Passengers with disabilities who cannot physically carry their children on the vehicle, or children with disabilities who must remain in a mobility device or stroller, may board and remain in designated cart/stroller seating area or the S/D seating area. If they elect to remain in the S/D seating area on a bus, the stroller must be secured in a similar fashion as if they were in a wheelchair.

Senior and riders with disabilities with a cart, walker, or cargo that is necessary to support their physical or mental condition may be given special permission to ride even if they violate one or more of the rules above.

Route 24 and 40 (Airport Shuttle) is exempt from the size and quantity limitations in these Rules because the Airport Shuttle is designed to handle large amounts of luggage and packages.