

**CITY OF ASHEVILLE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
POLICY REGULATING PUBLIC DISCOURSE AT
TRANSIT CENTER**

PURPOSE:

It is the purpose of this Policy to explore on a 12-month trial basis, provisions allowing public discourse at the Transit Center, a non-public forum.

INTENT:

It is the intent of this Policy to at all times recognize that safety is the number one priority for employees, riders and all others using the Transit Center for transportation needs and that the Transit Center's primary function is to benefit and serve citizens and residents relative to their transportation needs. It is the specific intent of this Policy during the twelve month trial period, not to convert the Transit Center into a public forum.

SCOPE:

The City of Asheville Transportation Department is engaged in public commerce as a provider of safe, clean and reliable mass bus transportation service. The Transit Center located on Coxe Avenue, in the City of Asheville, County of Buncombe, is part of this public commercial venture and is a non-public forum. To that end, the City of Asheville Transportation Department has adopted this interim 12-month trial Policy to allow for the expression of public discourse at the Transit Center, subject to the following conditions:

1. No person desiring to engage in public discourse at the Transit Center may set up tables, chairs, desks or any other accessory structures.
2. No person desiring to engage in public discourse at the Transit Center may use any sound amplification of any type to extend, enlarge or magnify sound.

DURATION:

At the end of 12 months, the Transportation Department shall report back to City Council as to the continued duration of this Policy.

Adopted by Asheville Transportation Department, this 23 day of FEB, 2012.


Ken Putnam, Director