

Approved:  Chief Executive Officer	ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES	No. 30
 Director of Operations	Subject: Public Activities at Sound Transit Facilities Date Issued: <u>October 26, 2009</u> Effective Date: <u>October 26, 2009</u> Revision Date: _____	

**PUBLIC ACTIVITIES
AT SOUND TRANSIT FACILITIES**

1. Purpose. As a provider of public transportation, Sound Transit makes a variety of transit properties available to persons who use public transit services. Although transit properties may be accessed by the general public, they are not open public forums either by nature or by designation. Transit properties are intended to be used for public transit-related activities and provide limited space for other activities.

Sound Transit has legitimate interests that impact public communication activities regardless of the viewpoint expressed, including but not limited to:

- A. Maintaining safe, clean and secure transit properties to retain existing users, as well as attract new users, of public transit services;
- B. Preventing delays and inconvenience to passengers by minimizing congestion, and expediting their boarding, transferring, and deboarding of transit vehicles;
- C. Reducing litter pick-up and other maintenance or administrative expenses so as to maximize the provision of public transit services; and
- D. Securing and maximizing the use of limited parking spaces and shelter space for persons who are using public transit services.

It is the purpose of this policy to describe the varying degrees to which passengers and the public may conduct public communication activities at Sound Transit facilities.

2. Transit Vehicles and Tunnel Platform Areas. Public communication activities are prohibited in transit vehicles and, consistent with King County's policy, tunnel platform areas.

3. Other Sound Transit Facilities.

A. Public communication activities that are otherwise lawful are permitted in Sound Transit facilities subject to the prohibitions, limits, exceptions, terms and conditions of this policy.

B. For safety and security reasons and to ensure that the free flow of pedestrians and the intended transportation functions of the passenger facilities are met, Sound Transit may designate appropriate areas at each facility for public communication activities. These areas will balance Sound Transit's legitimate interests with access to the public.

C. Signs, leaflets, posters, flyers, pamphlets, brochures and written, pictorial or graphic material of any kind, structures, banners and any other paraphernalia may not be posted or affixed to Sound Transit property.

D. For safety and security reasons and to ensure that the free flow of pedestrians, traffic and the intended transportation functions of the passenger facilities are met, a collective maximum number of individuals allowed to engage in public communication activities at any one passenger facility may be established by Sound Transit based on the size and configuration of the facility.

E. Persons engaged in public communication activities in compliance with this policy may nevertheless be required to cease or to move to another specified area within the same location if the number of persons engaged in public communication activities, their location or their manner of conducting the activities creates safety or security problems, interferes with the free flow of persons into, within, or from a plaza or mezzanine area, or interferes with vehicle access and normal operational use and quiet enjoyment of the facility or transit service therein.

F. For safety and security reasons, public communication activities are not permitted within fifteen (15) feet of any stairway, escalator, elevator, entrance, customer service counter, ticket or automatic teller machine, center line of the railroad track, bus stop curb, or authorized commercial activity. Public communications activities are not permitted within five (5) feet of any fire safety system component, telephone, information board or news vending machine. Additionally, public communications activities must not block normal pedestrian paths to and from the areas noted above.

G. For safety and security reasons, public communication activities are not permitted in parking areas, access driveways or roadways. Public communication activities must not block any loading zone, signage, stairway, escalator, elevator, customer service counter, ticket or automatic teller machine, authorized commercial activity, any fire safety system component, telephone, information board or the normal pedestrian paths to and from such areas.

H. Signs carried by or on a person are permitted, provided the signs are not constructed of a size or material which could inadvertently or intentionally cause injury to a person or property. Signs must not be of a size that obstructs the free flow of pedestrians.

I. Persons engaged in public communication activities in or on passenger facilities shall not use any parking spaces provided at such facilities unless they are also using a public transportation service.

4. Obligations of Communicator. In addition to any civil infraction or criminal sanctions which may be applicable under applicable federal, state and local law, any person engaged in public communication activities at Sound Transit facilities and found responsible for litter, damages or destruction of property, whether by accident or intent, is responsible for cleaning-up and/or will be held liable for the cost of clean-up, repair and replacement as necessary.