



Core Function: 210 - Safety
Document Type: 100 - Policy

210.100.P Inclement Weather Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety of bus riders and employees during inclement weather conditions while maintaining efficient service delivery to the extent possible. This policy provides guidelines for responding to weather-related events such as snow, ice, severe storms, and other extreme weather conditions.

Scope

This policy applies to all bus riders, employees, and contractors of Lawrence Transit and outlines the procedures for adjusting services and operations during adverse weather conditions.

Definitions

Inclement Weather: Includes but is not limited to snowstorms, freezing rain, heavy rainfall, blizzards, dangerous wind chill, or any weather event that significantly impacts the safe operation of vehicles, facilities, or personnel.

Policy Statement

Lawrence Transit will monitor the weather conditions and make decisions about service based on the severity of the weather.

- 1) During inclement weather, the bus system may:
 - Reduce service frequency
 - Cancel service on certain routes
 - Delay service start time
 - Terminate service early
 - Declare an emergency and suspend all service
- 2) Lawrence Transit will make every effort to notify riders of service changes in advance. Riders can check lawrencetransit.org, social media, or mobile app for real-time updates on the status of service.
- 3) During inclement weather, riders should:
 - Dress appropriately for the weather
 - Allow extra time for their trip
 - Be patient and understanding if service is delayed or cancelled

Service Adjustments During Inclement Weather

Level 1 - Normal Operations

Conditions are manageable, and all transit services operate according to regular schedules. Staff should remain alert to weather changes and be prepared for any adjustments as necessary.

Level 2 - Service Modifications

When weather conditions begin to worsen (e.g., moderate snow, sleet, ice, or gusty winds), the agency may modify service levels. This could include:

- Reduced service frequency (e.g., fewer buses or routes).
- Delayed start time or detours due to hazardous road conditions.
- Suspension of service on certain routes deemed unsafe.

Level 3 - Service Suspension or Emergency Mode

In severe weather (e.g., heavy snow or ice, extreme cold, blizzards, frost bite risk), transit service may be suspended or canceled for the safety of employees and passengers.

- This level will be determined by Lawrence Transit management in consultation with contracted service providers, local weather authorities, road conditions, and operational readiness.
- Emergency service routes may be activated for critical needs only (e.g., essential personnel transport, critical transit services).

Approval and Version Control



12/02/2024

[Director of Transit]

Date

NAME	DATE	Changes to the previous version
Adam Weigel, Director of Transit	12/02/2024	Policy revised and approved.
Adam Weigel, Director of Transit	6/24/2024	Policy created and approved.