

## WESTERN OAKLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY PORTABLE OXYGEN CYLINDER AND RESPIRATOR POLICY

Western Oakland Transportation Authority (WOTA) will transport portable oxygen cylinders and respirators as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and cannot prohibit these devices on public transit vehicles. Only cylinders that are maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions will be transported. Cylinders and respirators must be in good working condition, and all cylinders must be secured.

Before boarding a bus with an oxygen cylinder, drivers will listen for leaks in the cylinder and inspect the cylinder for dents, gouges, or pitting. If any of these conditions exist, the cylinder will not be transported.

Drivers will never drag or roll a cylinder or carry a cylinder by the valve or regulator. Drivers will handle the cylinder with care during passenger loading and unloading. No more than three (3) cylinders will be transported at a time on one vehicle.

Drivers will secure each cylinder to prevent movement or leakage. "Secure" means the cylinder is not free to move when the vehicle is in motion. Unsecured cylinders pose a serious threat of injury in the event of a sudden stop or collision.

Drivers will never store cylinders in the aisle of the vehicle and passengers requiring oxygen must not restrict access to exits or use of the aisle.

Upon reaching the passenger's destination, cylinders will be immediately removed from the vehicle.

Smoking and open flames are always prohibited on WOTA vehicles. Because the release of oxygen from a cylinder could accelerate a fire, cylinders will be secured away from sources of heat or potential sparks.

Passengers are asked to notify WOTA of oxygen cylinder and respirator use when scheduling their trip.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to:

Kim Viener  
WOTA  
(248) 887-4979 or [Director@ridewota.org](mailto:Director@ridewota.org)