

## TheBus Program for Passengers with Mobility Devices

Honolulu, Hawaii, June 7, 2010 – TheBus announced today that they are now providing a program to assist riders and potential riders with mobility devices (wheelchair, scooter, etc.) with the proper securement of their devices on TheBus.

The Mobility Device Securement Program will allow bus patrons with mobility devices to have their device assessed by the TheBus trainers, to find the best locations on their device to place the onboard securement straps.

“Not every mobility device is of a standard size, said Roger Morton, President and General Manager, Oahu Transit Services, Inc. (operator of TheBus). This makes it a challenge for the bus patron, as well as our bus operators to properly secure the mobility device.”

The program will allow patrons to make an appointment to meet with the training department staff. The mobility device securement points will then be marked with color-coded tape. Mobility devices that are of an irregular size or have securement points in a difficult area to access will be marked in Blue tape and may require an additional tether strap, which will be provided at no charge to the patron.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann said, “This is yet another indication of why TheBus continues to be one of the top transit systems in the nation. Even though riders love our bus system, the City and its partner, Oahu Transit Services, continue to find ways to encourage ridership and make the experience comfortable and enjoyable.”

The reaction by the ADA community has been favorable to this program.

*“Making our bus rides easier than ever before and giving red carpet treatment to people in wheelchairs is why it's TheBus for US. This is yet another outstanding travel innovation serving commuters and tourists with disabilities free of charge by TheBus.”*

*~ Gordon Fuller, Executive Director of Hawaii Centers for Independent Living*

*“In Hawaii, people with disabilities benefit greatly from public transportation. TheBus has made huge strides in accommodating the needs of our diverse disabled population. We appreciate their professionalism and creativity as reflected in making sure that it's The Bus for US.”*

*~ Cheryl Nelson, Executive Director of Hawaii State Independent Living Council*

In addition to the securement program, TheBus also offers a Transit Mobility Preparation program which allows new and potential Riders with Disabilities the opportunity to become familiar with how the bus equipment, such as lifts, ramps and securement systems operate and how to ride TheBus. This program is also presented by appointment.

For more information about the programs or to schedule an appointment, contact TheBus Training Department at 848-4550.