Cimarron Public Transit

Fall 2026
Safety & Training News



299 at Bond of Friendship Monument in Skedee: Erected in 1926, the monument features sculptures of Osage Nation Chief Bacon Rind and local resident Colonel Ellsworth Walters shaking hands. Walters famously served as the oil lease auctioneer for the Osage Nation during the 1920s.
Photo by Scott Kuhns.



Training Coordinator Jack Park reminds drivers to check seat belts. Attention to detail in keeping belts untwisted will assist riders with proper securement. Notice above left, the belt is twisted and will create issues when riders attempt to secure. Above right is how belts should be prepared before riders board.



Slips, Trips & Falls

Slip and fall accidents happen on and off the vehicle; most are preventable. Shelby Jewell, Senior Operations Specialist reviewed the number of slip, trip and fall incidents involving riders on CPTS vehicles during 2026 and identified the majority happened when a rider was entering/exiting the vehicle.

With this confirmation, please anticipate and offer assistance. Jewell shares the following tips:

- **Be sure the vehicle is in PARK and foot is OFF the brake before opening doors.**
- **Get out of the vehicle.**
- **Do not rush riders. Give riders time to safely get on and off the vehicle.**
- **Remind riders to use handrails, when available, or offer your arm.**
- **Be aware of conditions around the vehicle, especially uneven pavement, wet surfaces or other hazards.**

Assisting riders is not "extra", it's how Cimarron Transit provides service.



Drivers are responsible for knowing the height of their vehicle and being observant of and complying with heights of awnings. Drivers should always watch for and adhere first to signage indicating heights. Do not drive under awnings.



ADA Compliance is Everyone's Responsibility
Accessibility isn't someone else's job.

VACATION

Each employee can carry over 80 hours of unused annual leave to calendar year 2027. Check EWS and work with the dispatcher to be sure you have a plan to use and not lose leave. The last date to use annual leave for 2026 is Jan. 15, 2027.

First, check the calendar to see if co-workers have already requested the day. Look for openings. Requests will be considered on a first ask basis. CPTS riders depend on us.



Inclement Weather:
Please remind riders to check Cimarron Transit on Facebook for updates and closures.



Have a Tailgater?
Move over, let the other driver pass.
Be Safe. Drive Smart.



CPTS Staff Create a Positive Experience

CPTS dispatchers are often the first voice a passenger hears and the person they turn to with a question, concern or for help navigating public transit. Providing great customer service takes patience, knowledge and, most importantly, a desire to help.

Customer service can look different every day. It may mean answering a question, listening to a frustrated passenger, or simply treating someone with kindness and respect. Often taking a few extra moments to make sure a passenger feels heard, can have an impact.

It takes skill and tact to deal with customers who are not always nice or happy and CPTS dispatchers do this day in and day out.

Please remember, every employee has an opportunity to make a difference. The way we communicate and treat each other as well as passengers reflects our entire organization.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sept-Dec

23 Years
Lori Harbour

17 Years
Jack Park

10 Years
Mickey Ernst

5 Years
Marcia Gunn
Lois Reinemann
Lance Smith
Patricia York

4 Years
Kerri Cluen
Sara Johnson
Kelly Young

3 Years
George Noble



2 Years
JoAnn Kriege
Dean Van Tassel

1 Year
Dale Kirk Johnson



299 in Pawnee