

## City of Missoula Police Department

## **Press Release**

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## Note to Drivers: Remember to Yield to Mountain Line Buses

Missoula Police Department officers remind drivers that they must yield to Mountain Line buses that are flashing illuminated yield signs as they attempt to enter traffic flow after stops. Officers will pay extra attention to enforcement of the "yield to urban transportation buses" ordinance in the next few weeks.

Mountain Line officials recently met with the Missoula Police Department to request extra enforcement of the ordinance on the most problematic routes. The ordinance, passed by the Missoula City Council in August 2009, is designed to ensure that buses can run in a reliable and timely manner. That means that riders can depend on buses arriving on time, and the bus system flows smoothly. That encourages more people to use the bus system, thus improving traffic flow for all drivers.

To help encourage compliance with this ordinance and increase public education, Missoula Police Department officers will provide extra monitoring on the most problematic routes for Mountain Line between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. beginning during the week of Jan. 17. The routes receiving this extra attention will be on South Higgins Avenue at the Lewis and Clark transfer station near Benton Avenue; Brooks Street near Trempers Shopping Center; and Russell Street at the pedestrian crossing located at Dakota Street.

Citizens can expect extra patrol for the next few weeks and continued extra attention from police officers working traffic enforcement.