

MEDIA RELEASE

David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra



PRAM SAFETY ON THE CITYRAIL NETWORK

Monday 2 November 2009

Minister for Transport David Campbell today reminded parents to focus on pram safety when travelling on the CityRail network with young children.

“We saw that frightening incident in Melbourne a couple of weeks ago and thankfully, the little boy was alright, but I don’t want any parent going through that experience here.

“We can never overstate the importance of holding onto prams, using brakes and parking parallel to the tracks when on platforms.

“It only takes a brief lapse of attention for something to go wrong,” Mr Campbell said.

Mr Campbell said the Government’s \$3.3 million investment to improve pram safety on the network had seen a drop in incidents, with just one so far in 2009, compared with five for 2008.

“CityRail’s education campaign incorporates a number of initiatives including distributing a pram safety DVD - over 50,000 of these DVDs are distributed every year,” Mr Campbell said.

“I am pleased to announce that from today, these DVDs will be available to parents at all CBD and key interchange stations.

“CityRail has already made all platforms on the network ‘pram safe’ with staff measuring gradients and marking out areas unsafe for strollers. Traction Interlocking has also been completed on all trains, so that the train cannot move if something is caught in the door.

“Pram safety posters and brochures are available and CityRail staff also provide safety announcements at stations,” Mr Campbell said.

Passengers traveling with prams should:

- Always keep a firm hold of your pram anywhere on stations and trains
- Always apply pram brakes when you are at the station on the train
- Ensure your child is securely strapped to the pram
- Park the pram sideways at stations, so it’s never facing the tracks
- Get on an off the train near a guard – so they can see you when closing the train doors
- Mind the gap between the platform and train door
- Don’t rush – allow adequate time for your journey.

Copies of the DVD are also available by phoning 1800 625 352 or on the CityRail website. Mr Campbell encouraged passengers to ask CityRail staff and Transit Officers for assistance if they needed help with their pram.

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