

Procedure

12.9

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
6-16-17**

**Eugene
Police Department**



VEHICLE PUSH BUMPERS

12.9.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Many Eugene Police Department vehicles have been outfitted with push bumpers. This procedure provides guidelines on how the push bumper may be used during non-emergency situations.

12.9.2 EQUIPMENT

The Vehicle Committee will make recommendations to the Chief of Police or their designee regarding which vehicles should be outfitted with push bumpers. Final approval for whether or not a vehicle receives a push bumper will be made by the Chief or their designee.

12.9.3 USE OF PUSH BUMPERS

Vehicle push bumpers may be used to push a disabled vehicle out of a roadway in order to expedite the return of the normal flow of traffic.

The following considerations and requirements will be met:

- a. The affected driver must provide clear consent for their vehicle to be pushed, and acknowledge that EPD will not be held liable for any damages incurred. This consent should be gained when possible with a recording device activated (ICV/BWV).
- b. The vehicle should be pushed to the nearest safe place where it is no longer obstructing traffic (e.g., parking lot, parking area along a curb, or a side street).

Prior to attempting to push a vehicle:

- c. Make every effort to ensure a proper match of bumpers.
- d. Ensure there is a relatively smooth roadway.
- e. Explain what to expect to the driver, as well as what their duties include.
- f. Check with the driver regarding their competence in performing those duties.

Do not push any vehicle:

- g. Larger than a light pickup.
- h. With obstructions inhibiting the free movement of any tire/wheel (e.g., locked brakes, broken wheel mounts, crash damage).
- i. For the purpose of restarting the engine.
- j. To a repair facility, unless that facility complies with 12.9.3.b.

Department vehicles without push bumpers may not be used to push other vehicles. A tow truck should be utilized if there is any doubt about the ability to safely move the disabled vehicle.

PETE KERNS
Chief of Police