Using slow vehicle bays



Slow vehicle bays are provided to allow slow moving vehicles to give following vehicles an opportunity to pass. They help reduce driver frustration and unsafe passing manoeuvres.



New Zealand Government

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Slow vehicle bays are like passing lanes, but much shorter. If you have traffic behind you, you should pull into the slow vehicle bay and keep left to allow other vehicles to pass.

When exiting a slow vehicle bay, choose a suitable gap to move back into the traffic flow. Other drivers should demonstrate courtesy by allowing the vehicles that have slowed back into the traffic flow.

It is important to note that there is no requirement for the vehicles using the slow vehicle bays to stop. The road rules for using slow vehicle bays are provided in the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 clause 2.2(2)(b).

Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 clause 2.2(2)(b):

A driver who is driving at a slow speed that would impede the normal and reasonable movement of any other vehicle must—

- (a) move into the slow vehicle bay as soon as the movement may be made with safety; and
- (b) continue there until the driver reaches the end of the slow vehicle bay or is able to proceed without impeding the normal and reasonable movement of vehicles using the road.