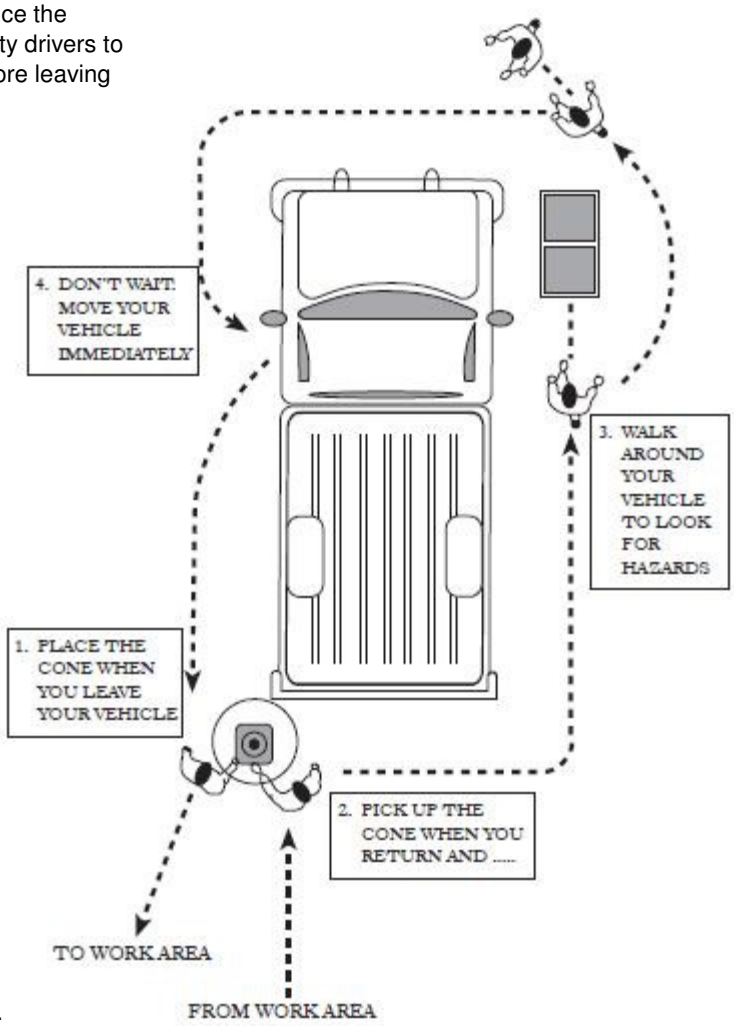
The purpose of the Circle of Safety Program is to reduce the frequency of preventable accidents by encouraging City drivers to perform a walk around inspection of their vehicles before leaving the area.

At least one out of three traffic accidents involving City drivers is a backing related accident. This type of accident can be prevented simply by walking around the vehicle to check for obstructions before driving away from an area. It is important to also examine the path to be taken when backing, especially when distance is significant.

Experience has shown that this “walk around” procedure creates a level of awareness and alertness that has been affective in avoiding this type of accident. More than just backing accidents can be prevented by the “walk around”. There are many incidents of property damage caused by vehicle sideswiping low profile stationary objects as the driver pulls away. Drivers are often focused on the task at hand and forget about obstacles they’ve seen when arriving. Most importantly, this practice will identify any persons in the immediate area.

Driver participating in the Circle of Safety Program will be provided with an orange traffic cone upon request. The cone serves as a reminder to walk around the vehicle. Before the driver leaves the vehicle, they place the cone on the ground at the left rear of the vehicle (if pulling forward, place at the left front of the vehicle). Upon returning to the vehicle, the driver will pick up the cone and continue to walk around the vehicle (full circle) to check for obstacles and any persons in the area.



The success of this program is dependent on the individual participation to develop the habit of placing the cone at the rear of the vehicle and making the inspection.