



Latest News



Find CommuteInfo on Facebook

To increase CommuteInfo's ability to reach commuters, a Facebook page has been set up for the program. The page includes information on commuting alternatives, instructions for commuters on how to register with the program and news about CommuteInfo. You can view the CommuteInfo Facebook page at: facebook.com/CommuteInfo.

Emergency Ride Home

The CommuteInfo Emergency Ride Home (ERH) service is designed to provide a ride home for registered commuters participating in a registered vanpool, carpool or bikepool in the event of an unexpected personal or family emergency, personal illness, unscheduled overtime, or other eligible event.

If an eligible commuter needs an emergency ride home, the commuter simply makes their own arrangements to get home. The reason for the ERH must also fall within the [program guidelines](#).

The commuter can check the list of [suggested resources](#) for help in identifying a transportation provider, but the commuter can also choose a way home not on the list. The commuter then arranges for a ride, pays and gets a receipt. Then, within 30 days of the ride, submits the [refund application](#) and receipt to CommuteInfo for processing.

Learn more about CommuteInfo's ERH service by [clicking here](#) or by calling the CommuteInfo staff at 1-888-819-6110.

Emergency Ride Home Transit Pilot Launched

Starting on July 1, 2010 and running for one year, qualified riders of the Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA) and the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority (MMVTA) will be covered by the CommuteInfo's ERH service. At the end of the pilot year, a decision will be made whether to continue the service for transit riders. This pilot is being offered through a partnership among BCTA, MMVTA and CommuteInfo. To learn more about the ERH transit pilot, [click here](#).

University of Pittsburgh's 2nd Annual Bike to Campus Day

The University of Pittsburgh's 2nd Annual Bike to Campus Day was held on May 21st to coincide with National Bike to Work day. Working with other partners, the event included free bicycle safety inspections performed by Carnegie Mellon University bicycle police, free bicycle registration, University bicycle brochures, and free breakfast to acknowledge the important contribution that cyclists make to the environment. The Oakland Transportation Management Association (OTMA) also offered free bicycle lights to all who registered their bikes as well as a

backpack with safety information, reflectors, and other promotions. The University of Pittsburgh Bicycle Officers actually installed the bike lights after each bike inspection was completed. Twenty-nine bicycles were registered an increase over last year's seven registrations.

For more information about the University of Pittsburgh's Bike to Campus Day, contact Jan Thomas by calling 412-624-8802.

Bike Pittsburgh (BikePGH), a membership based bicycle advocacy organization serving cyclists in Pittsburgh, has joined forces with a wide range of partners in Southwestern Pennsylvania, including CommuteInfo, to encourage commuting by transit, vanpool, carpool or biking through a promotion called Car Free Fridays.

It's easy to participate. Don't drive alone on Fridays - take transit, carpool, vanpool, walk or join one of the bikepools departing from neighborhoods throughout the city and going to major commuting

Car Free Friday's



destinations such as Downtown Pittsburgh, Oakland and the South Side. Help spread the word to co-workers, friends, neighbors, etc. Keep checking back to the [Car Free Fridays](#)

[site](#) for announcements of breakfasts, discounts, and specials on Fridays throughout the year.

Commuting Options: Information & Resources



Port Authority Implements Additional Route Changes

Twenty-six Port Authority of Allegheny County routes were changed on June 13 as the second round of Transit Development Plan changes went into effect.

Port Authority's Transit Development Plan is the result of more than two years of planning and feedback from thousands of riders, all with the goal to make transit smarter and more efficient.

More than 60 routes changed during the first round in April. Many more routes will change during the next round, scheduled for September. More changes will come in the next few years.

New routes are being added to serve growth areas and redundant or underused routes are being consolidated.

Port Authority is also working to make the system easier to learn and simpler to use for new and occasional riders as well as commuters and daily riders. Renamed routes, streamlined Downtown circulation and more consistent service will help make transit more accessible to a greater number of people.

Details on the Transit Development Plan route changes are available at www.portauthority.org, where riders can sign up for email alerts to get the latest information about the routes that are changing in September. Schedules and brochures are also available at Port Authority's Downtown Pittsburgh Service Center on Smithfield Street.

Allegheny County Transportation Management Associations Provide Additional Resources To Help Port Authority Riders Learn About Change's

As a supplement to the communication efforts of the Port Authority of Allegheny County, the 3 transportation management associations (TMA) in Allegheny County, the Airport Corridor Transportation Association (ACTA), the Oakland Transportation Management Association (OTMA) and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnerships Transportation Management Association (PDP) produced a special information piece. It was designed to help explain Port Authority's June 13th service changes for their service areas, called `Change is Coming Soon, So Get on Board. In addition OTMA and ACTA produced companion pieces that highlighted route changes in their respective areas.



To learn more about the publication Change is Coming Soon, So Get on Board contact any of the TMA's:

[ACTA](#)



To learn about transit, visit the Transit page on the CommuteInfo website:
http://www.commuteinfo.org/comm_options_transit.shtml



Vanpool Groups Looking for

Rider's

Several vanpool groups have seats available. View the entire list of vanpool groups by [clicking here](#). The groups with the highest number of seats available are:

Origin: Knox (Group V503)

Destination: Boyers
Time Arriving at Work: 6 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 2:30 p.m.

Origin: White Oak (Group V206)
Destination: Oakland
Time Arriving at Work: 8:10 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 5:05 p.m.

Origin: Weirton (Group V104)
Destination: Downtown Pittsburgh
Time Arriving at Work: 7:40 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 5:10 p.m.

Origin: Greensburg (Group V107)
Destination: Downtown Pittsburgh
Time Arriving at Work: 7:00 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 4:05 p.m.

To obtain a complete list of vanpool groups that match your particular commute, fill out a commuter profile today by [clicking here](#) or by calling 1-888-819-6110. If vanpooling works for you, you can join on either a full-time or part-time basis. Also, if you know someone who might be looking for an alternative to driving alone, then tell them about CommuteInfo and vanpooling. More information about the vanpool program can be found on the CommuteInfo [website](#).



Carpool Groups Looking for Rider's

Several registered carpool groups have seats available this is just a sample, for a complete listing of carpools looking for riders, please [click here](#):

Origin: Irwin (C1268)
Destination: Downtown Pittsburgh
Time Arriving at Work: 8:00 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 4:30 p.m.

Origin: Valencia (C1276)
Destination: Oakland
Time Arriving at Work: 8:30 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 5:00 p.m.

Origin: Penn Hills (C1174)

Destination: Oakland
Time Arriving at Work: 8:30 a.m.
Time Leaving for Home: 5:00 p.m.

Also, please tell other people about carpooling and how it might be an option for them. More information about the carpool program can be found on the CommuteInfo [website](#).

To obtain a complete list of carpool groups that match your particular commute, fill out a commuter profile today by [clicking here](#) or by calling 1-888-819-6110. If carpooling works for you, you can join on either a full-time or part-time basis. Also, if you know someone who might be looking for an alternative to driving alone, then tell them about CommuteInfo and carpooling. More information about the carpool program can be found on the CommuteInfo [website](#).

If you are already carpooling and want to register your carpool with CommuteInfo, registering takes less than 5 minutes each person in the group completes a [commuter profile](#) and in the other comments section, simply state that they are part of a carpool and list everyone else in the carpool.

Learn more about the benefits of [registering](#) your carpool with [CommuteInfo](#) or [contact us](#) to find out what specific options are available for you.



Electric Bike's

Some commuters considering biking are stopped cold by the thought of trying to pedal up all those hills in southwestern Pennsylvania. Electric bikes are part of a wide range of Light Electric Vehicles (LEVs) that might literally help you up the hill. These bikes do not require the user to have any special license or vehicle registration. Electric bikes can assist commuters because they allow travel up to 30 miles on a single charge, and require less exertion so commuters are less likely to be drenched in sweat when arriving at their destination. Some models have motors that assist pedaling. Other models allow the power to assist the commuter via a throttle mounted on the handle. Electric bikes can be plugged into any regular electrical outlet, and usually take a couple of hours to re-charge.

Looking for Someone to Share Your Biking Commute

CommuteInfo can help commuters find bikepool buddies. The process works the same way as finding someone to carpool with --- complete the commuter profile [on-line](#) or over the phone by calling 1-888-819-6110 and a matchlist with other people interested in biking to work or school will be sent to you. Also, tell other people about bikepooling and how it might be an option for them. More information about the bikepool program can be found on the CommuteInfo [website](#).



To learn more about walking, teleworking, flextime or compressed work weeks, visit the Other Option's page on the CommuteInfo website: http://www.commuteinfo.org/comm_options_other.shtml

Please send community events or speaking opportunities where the CommuteInfo staff and partners can present information about commuting options and learn about local commuting challenges of residents and businesses in your area.

Also, send your story ideas for this e-newsletter [email your](#) ideas today!



The CommuteInfo program is dedicated to increasing the number of people who share a ride work or school. The goal is for commuters living, working or attending school within the 10-county Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission region (including Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland counties) to choose ridesharing at least twice a week. CommuteInfo is also an information clearinghouse and resource center for commuters and employers.

With approximately 60% of the Southwestern Pennsylvania regions 1.5 million workers traveling outside of their resident municipality to work each day, finding a better way to work is clearly an integral part of life for the region's employers and workers.

[CommuteInfo](#) is a program of the [Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission](#) (SPC), coordinated in partnership with transportation management associations, transportation providers, businesses and non-profit service organizations throughout Southwestern PA.

Check out previous e-newsletter editions by [clicking here](#)

Thanks again for your interest in commuting alternatives and CommuteInfo: a better way to work.

This message was sent from CommuteInfo to lkschweyer@spcregion.org. It was sent from: Southwestern PA Commission, 425 Sixth Avenue Suite 2500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. You can modify/update your subscription via the link below.

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