



An alliance of the Downtown Seattle Association, King County Metro and City of Seattle

August 2009 Newsletter

There's Still Time to: Beat the Crush

On July 23, 2009, over 50 businesses met with King County Metro Transit managers and Commute Seattle staff to discuss Metro's current challenges and solutions to help employees avoid crowded buses. Attendees received the latest information on Metro's budget issues and potential service cuts, as well as a diverse set of commute solutions to support a more convenient and reliable bus commute. Highlights of the meeting included:

- *Beat the Crush Creative Solutions for Downtown Employers* – with information on policy change incentives up to \$5,000
- *Beat the Crush* ideas and print collateral for commuters (your employees)
- Case studies from peer employers who have implemented innovative workplace solutions to improve commuting and productivity

If you missed the event and would like to find out how to Beat the Crush check out more tips [here](#).



Commuting Tips and Tricks

Metro's New Commuter Tools Can Help Create a Better and Faster Commute. Find Them At www.kingcounty.gov/metro or www.commuteseattle.com.

- Eye on Your Metro Commute
- King County Metro Alerts
- King County Twitter
- King County News Blog
- Bus Tracker
- Regional Public Information Network (RPIN)

The Washington State Department of Transportation has also added new tools to deliver real-time traffic and incident information to Northwest motorists.

E-mail alerts

Drivers can sign up for e-mail alerts and have the incident information from the Seattle traffic Web page, www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/seattle/, sent directly to their inbox.



Twitter

With a simple text message, Twitter will send travel times for the major highway corridors in and around the central Puget Sound. Twitter users can follow WSDOT at www.twitter.com/wsdot. Go to www.wsdot.wa.gov/inform/twitter for more details.

For those not using Twitter, real-time traffic information and weather is also available at wsdot.wa.gov/traffic or by dialing 5-1-1. To learn more about what we're doing, go to wsdot.wa.gov/news for pictures videos, news and blogs.

Employer Incentives

National Tele-work Expert Provides Downtown Businesses Complementary Consultations

Tele-work is a fast emerging viable work place policy. Companies of all sizes are increasingly implementing tele-work programs to support business continuation as a crisis management tool, as a cost containment tool and as an employee benefit and productivity solution.

Tele-work programs require work place assessments and thoughtful information technology protocols. Commute Seattle can help you receive a free consultation from a national expert, compliments of King County Metro. Contact info@commuteseattle.com for more information.

Commuter Events and Promotions

Bail out your commute and WIN a trip w/ RideshareOnline

The Washington State Rideshareing Organization and King County Metro are pleased to bring you the annual SUMmer RideshareOnline.com promotion.

Employees could win \$50 each week they are registered in RideshareOnline.com from August 10 – September 18, 2009. If you register and carpool or vanpool during this period, you could be eligible to win a weekend getaway for 3 days and 2 nights at one of 4 premier hotels in Washington or Idaho. Each package includes selected meals and a \$50 gas card for travel costs.

[Learn how to win >>>](#)



Calling all Downtown Bikers!

The Seattle Department of Transportation is asking for ideas for where the next on-street bike parking should be. See SDOT Blog about new, on-street parking for bikes. Go to: <http://sdotblog.seattle.gov/2009/08/04/primoparkingforbikes/>

Run@Work Day – September 18th

Road Runners Club of America is celebrating their 4th Annual National Run@Work Day September 18th!

Run or Walk at least thirty-five minutes before work, during lunch, or immediately after work. A Run@Work Day event can be as simple as taking your co-workers out for a lunch time walk or a Run@Work Day event can be an afternoon company fun run. To find out more about Run@ Work Day visit:

<http://www.rrca.org/programs/runatwork/>

Win a Year of Free Transit

Tell Sound Transit why you dumped the pump and you may be eligible to win a year of FREE transit. Maybe you're saving your hard-earned cash. Maybe you're helping to protect the environment. Or maybe all that traffic is just stressing you out.

Whatever your reason, now you can win a year of free public transportation from Sound Transit. We are teaming up with the American Public Transportation Association to ask you to send us a video explaining why you are Dumping the Pump and riding public transportation.

[Learn how to win free transit for a year>>>](#)

[CommuteSeattle.com](#): Your Online Resource for Commuting to Downtown. When it comes to commuting to downtown, you have options. Our website provides links to transportation providers and commuter resources all in one place. Make it your central resource for tracking your bus and getting the heads up on traffic alerts and weather as they relate to your commute. Employers will also find resources that will assist in making smart business decisions regarding employee commuter benefits.

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