

HANDOUTS

from previous meeting



July 15, 2003

Air Quality Planning

- Clean Air Act Amendments
 - Washington region designated as a severe non-attainment area for 1 hour Ozone standard.
 - Must reach attainment for 1 hour Ozone standard by 2005.
- State Implementation Plan
 - All sources and provides transportation emissions budget
 - Includes TCMs
 - Budget test to be passed for conformity of the plan and program

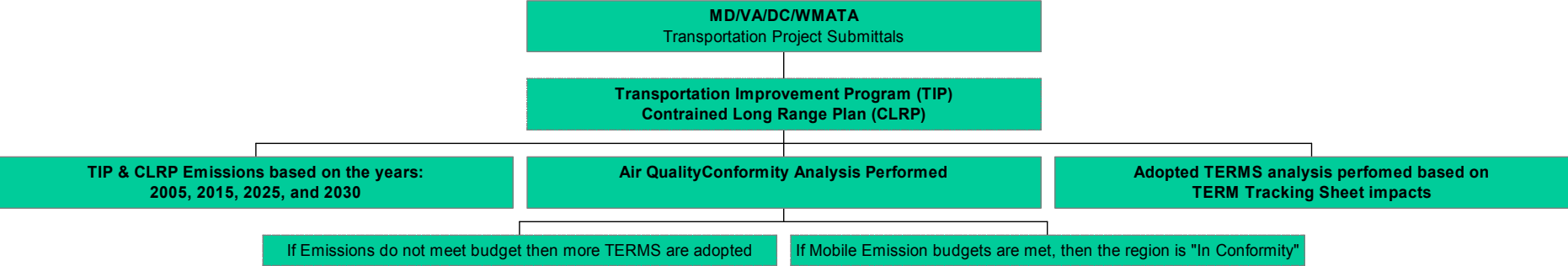
Air Quality Planning

- Transportation Conformity and TERMS.
 - CLRP and TIP satisfy conformity requirements.
 - TERMS programmed if emissions reduction are needed.
 - MPO must ensure that TERMS are implemented and reductions achieved.
 - Done through the TERM Tracking Sheet.
 - Report on the effectiveness of the TERMS in the conformity analysis report.

Air Quality Planning

- Implementing agency responsibilities
 - Implement program and make a good faith effort to deliver results as promised.
 - If needed revise program, inform TPB, and reevaluate program after changes.
 - Provide status reports to the MPO on the status of the TERMS.

TRANSPORTATION AND AIR QUALITY FLOW CHART FOR 2003 CLRP and FY04-09 TIP



Commuter Connections TERMS

- Employer Outreach
- Regional Guaranteed Ride Home
- Commuter Operations Center (not adopted as a TERM)
- Telework Resource Center
- Integrated Ridesharing
- Employer Outreach for Bicycling
- Consumer Mass Marketing

Program Highlights (con't)

Comparison of Commuter Connections TERM impacts to goals – net benefit

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>02 Est.</u>	<u>Net</u>
Trips reduced	69,558	90,952	<u>21,394</u>
VMT reduced	1,173,771	1,721,808	<u>548,037</u>
NOx reduced	1.864 T	2.270 T	<u>0.406 T</u>
VOC reduced	0.823 T	1.123 T	<u>0.300 T</u>

Air quality planning

- Conformity
 - Budget
 - TERMS to meet budget.
 - TERMS similar to TCMs but if you don't meet. the goal you can substitute with other measures.
 - Flexibility is not an excuse for not trying to reach goal.

Exhibit 24

Mobile Source Emissions - Summary Table

				2005	
				VOC	NOx
Network Analysis				104.345	186.125
Tier 2/Low Sulfur				-2.886	-15.823
TERM credits				-3.44	-5.711
SIP TCMs				0.2	0.4
Governors' init. And other projects				-1.373	-2.698
Mitigation package				-1.988	-1.81
Net Emissions				94.858	160.483
Budget				101.8	161.8
Margin				6.942	1.317

Source: Air Quality Conformity Determination of the 2002 CLRP and the
 FY 2003-08 TIP for the Metropolitan Washington Region



Briefing on the “Value Pricing for Transportation” Conference

June 4, 2003

Grand Hyatt Washington

**Sponsored by
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Federal Highway Administration,
District of Columbia Department of Transportation,
Maryland Department of Transportation, and
Virginia Department of Transportation.**

Overview

- Over 185 people attended the conference
- Several TPB members spoke at the conference and attended
- The conference received considerable media attention



What is Value Pricing?

“Use of prices, charges and fees for traveling in order to produce needed revenue and simultaneously to influence travel behavior so that travelers make decisions that use highway and transit systems more efficiently and equitably.”

-Professor Martin Wachs



Types of Value Pricing

- **HOT Lanes (allows single occupant drivers to pay to use HOV lanes; carpools continue to use the lanes for free)**
- **Higher peak period bridge tolls**
- **Parking cash-out**
- **Cordon pricing scheme recently implemented in central London**
- **“Pay As You Go” concept for fixed auto costs like insurance**

Conference Highlights

Six Themes or Issue Areas

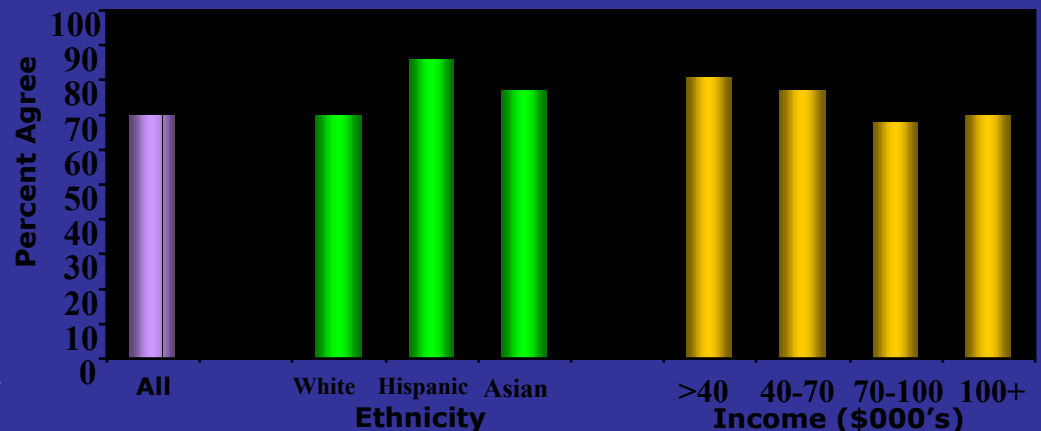
- **Equity**
- **Pricing Options That Expand Choices Are the Most Popular**
- **Transportation Revenue and Pricing**
- **Technology**
- **Wide Range of Support**
- **Public Education and Political Support Are Keys to Success**

Equity

- Is it fair?
- The income and racial distributions of people who use the HOT lanes in California are similar to the general public
- People of all backgrounds view the HOT lane concept as paying for a premium level of service

“ People who drive alone should be able to use the HOV Lanes for a Fee?”

Source: I-15 San Diego Survey



Pricing Options that Expand Choices are the Most Popular

- Successful strategies emphasize expanding travelers choices, rather than charging for an existing choice
- Maintaining free flowing HOV lanes and keeping the same number of general use lanes are a key ingredient
- High quality bus rapid transit works well with HOT lanes



Transportation Revenue and Pricing

- Lack of funding a critical issue
- Declining fuel tax revenues due to tax rates, vehicle fuel efficiency, and alternative fuels
- Pricing strategies create an incentive to use the system efficiently
- Revenues from pricing should be used in the same corridor in which they were raised

Technology

- Tolls preferred to gas taxes for interstate construction years back but were harder to collect
- Technology now makes tolls easy to collect
- Technological advancements can help with the enforcement issue related to HOT and HOV lanes



A Wide Range of Support: Common Ground for Expanded Choices

- Representatives from AAA-Mid Atlantic, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, the Coalition for Smarter Growth and Environmental Defense spoke at the conference
- Both the environmental and business communities support the use of pricing in the region, with conditions
- Also several initiatives from Congress and the Administration to permit states to toll interstates



Public Education and Political Support Are Key to Success

- **Need to be proactive in educating the public on the concept of value pricing to negate common misconceptions**
- **Primary element in successful pricing programs is political support**
- **London survey demonstrates misperception from public officials regarding the willingness of the public to accept pricing**
 - **Elected officials from the London area thought that 80 percent of the citizens would oppose tolls, but in fact only 30 percent of the citizens opposed tolls**
- **Political champions are a must**

Conclusion

- PowerPoint presentations and attendee roster from the conference available at www.mwcog.org/pricingconference
- Significant interest generated on the potential benefit of pricing to the region
- Task force could further explore issues



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2003
TO: Commuter Connections Subcommittee
Commuter Operations Center Subcommittee
FROM: *CA* Christopher Arabia, Operations Center Manager
SUBJECT: New Commuter Connections Web Site Application

As of July 1, 2003, the Commuter Connections Web site has a new application that combines the rideshare and GRH applications.

If you currently link to (or are planning to link to) either the rideshare or the GRH application in the Commuter Connections Web site, please use the following link.

<http://www.commuterconnections.com/cgi-bin/cog/signup.cgi>

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum or our Web site, please contact the Help Line at 202-962-3333.





MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 14, 2003

TO: Commuter Connections CCRS Clients

FROM: *CA* Christopher Arabia, Operations Center Manager

SUBJECT: e-Communicator Policy and Fact Sheet

On June 26, 2003, COG implemented the e-Communicator system of processing GRH and rideshare applications received through the Commuter Connections Web site. At the same time, a new all-in-one GRH/rideshare application was also implemented on the Commuter Connections Web site.

What is e-Communicator?

e-Communicator is a new system used only by COG to process GRH and rideshare applications received through the Commuter Connections Web site. This process eliminates manual data entry work performed by Commuter Connections client members to input applicant data into the CCRS database.

Will COG have to install software on local client computers or will local clients have to upgrade their computer system?

No. The CCRS system currently on clients' computers will not be changed and no upgrade is needed. The e-Communicator system is only used at COG.

What is the clients' roll with applications processed through e-Communicator?

The staff timesavings that result from more applications being processed by COG through e-Communicator will vary from client to client. The clients will receive an e-mail from COG for each CCRS applicant living in that client's jurisdiction processed through e-Communicator. The e-mail will detail what information the applicant is requesting (i.e., ridematching, transit information, bicycle information, etc.). The client is responsible for contacting the applicant to provide the transit information requested. Although, the applicant will receive a matchlist from COG, the client should follow up with the commuter to see if the applicant called the commuters on the matchlist and was able to join a carpool or vanpool, or if they need additional information on other commute alternatives. The client may generate another matchlist if needed and change the matching parameters if necessary.



The following are policies and procedures regarding e-Communicator application processing.

- COG staff will review all CCRS and GRH applications for correctness.
- The street address for the origin and destination will be used for geocoding and matching.
- If ArcView does not recognize the street origin or destination, then the Landmark will be used. (The Landmark will be the origin or destination city entered by the commuter. If that city is not in the Landmark table COG staff will assign a Landmark during the application review process.)
- If the applicant requested a matchlist, the matchlist will be sent via e-mail or first class mail (depending how the applicant requested receipt of the matchlist) from COG.
- The client serving the home jurisdiction of the applicant will receive an e-mail from COG notifying the client that a commuter applied for rideshare information.
- Applications will be given an App Code of C1000 or CGRH2. The CGRH2 code will be used if the applicant did not request any commuter information. (i.e., The applicant did not request a matchlist and they did not request any other commute information.)
- All applications processed through e-Communicator will have a one-year expiration date.
- Clients should open the commuter record in CCRS **BEFORE** doing any follow up to make sure the application has been processed and to see what information has been requested.
- Clients should not contact GRH2 commuters or change any information, including App Code and expiration date.
- During follow up contact with commuters, clients may change the App Code of the commuter record to their code.
- Clients may also change the expiration date for non-GRH records, during follow up.
- App Codes may be changed by the client **ONLY** if the client has conducted follow up and/or provided information to the commuter.
- Clients should allow sufficient time for the commuter to contact other commuters on their matchlist, before follow up with the commuter to see if they were able to join a carpool or vanpool.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum or need assistance, please contact the Help Line at 202-962-3333.

Commuter Connections

SAMPLE E-MAIL CLIENT NOTIFICATION OF APPLICANT

Subject: FW: CCRS Application Approved For Elizabeth Franklin.

-----Original Message-----

From: Commuter Connections

Sent: Friday, July 11, 2003 5:28 PM

Subject: CCRS Application Approved For Elizabeth Franklin.

Dear Client:

The following commuter living in your jurisdiction has requested ridematching and/or transit information. Open this commuter's record in CCRS and see what information has been requested (i.e., matchlist, transit information, etc.). Matchlists will be sent by COG.

Please send the commuter and additional information, including bus and rail schedules as requested.

If the commuter has requested a matchlist, please allow sufficient time for the commuter to contact the names on their matchlist and join a carpool or vanpool. Then follow up with this commuter to see if they have received their matchlist and if they have contacted the commuters on their list. Provide an additional matchlist, if requested.

Elizabeth

Test

17004 Main Road

Culpepper

VA

22701

Work Phone: 2025551234

Home Phone: 5405551234

If you have any questions, please call our Help Line at 202-962-3333.

Thank you,

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS

www.commuterconnections.org

1-800-745-RIDE

7/14/2003

Commuter Connections

SAMPLE E-MAIL MATCHLETTER

From: Commuter Connections
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2003 2:37 PM
Subject: Match Letter

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS

July 11, 2003

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
FREDERICKSBURG VA 22407

I.D.....0035001589
CORE WORK HOURS:.....0700A-0330P
PHONE:.....H:540-...W:703-...
PHONE:.....H:540-...W:703-...
AGENCY/FIRM:.....
WORK LOC:.....FORT BELVOIR
DELETE DATE:.....01/07/04

Dear Commuter,

Listed below are names and phone numbers of people who have expressed an interest in ridesharing. These commuters live and work near you, or travel your route to work. Your next step to forming or adding to your pool is to call these people.

COMMUTER NAME PHONE PREFERENCE
WORK HOURS (H)=HOME RIDER OR FINAL
<*>=NEGOTIABLE (W)=WORK DRIVER DESTINATION

THE FOLLOWING LIVE AND WORK NEAR YOU -- 6916 Quitman Dr

JIM SOLTHANI H540-972-5252 CAR--BOTH
0800A-0230P W703-670-4700 VAN--RIDER POTOMAC HOSPITAL
JANET FRYE H540-967-0840 CAR--BOTH
0730A-0400P W703-706-1028 VAN--RIDER FORT BELVOIR
ETHEL STALLWORTH H540-891-7955 CAR--RIDER FIU, CIDC
0700A-0330P W703-428-7267 VAN--RIDER FORT BELVOIR
KATHERINE MCIVER H540-898-3546 CAR--RIDER US ARMY CORPS OF ENG
0700A-0330P W703-428-8620 VAN--RIDER FORT BELVOIR

If you would like to make a change or correction, please call 800-745-RIDE (7433) or fill out and mail a new application. Your name will be removed from our files on the above "delete date." Please contact us before that date if you wish to remain a member.

This service is provided by the METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, in cooperation with your local government, and the governments of the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND and VIRGINIA.

7/14/2003

***** ALTERNATIVE COMMUTING OPTIONS *****

The closest Park and Ride Lot to your origin is FALMOUTH P&R, located on US 17 west of I-95.

The closest VRE Commuter Rail Station to your origin is FREDERICKSBURG. It is 0.4 miles away. Call VRE at 703-684-0400 for more information.

No metro stations were found in the database within a twenty miles of your primary origin.

FREDERICKSBURG REGIONAL TELECOMMUTING CENTER is a Telecommuting Center near you, located on 10799 Columbia Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22408. For more information, call (540) 891-3151. For more information on BICYCLE COMMUTING, call 1-800-745-RIDE.

For Park & Ride Lots, please go to <http://maps.mwcog.org>

All **COMMUTER CONNECTIONS** members share the same regional commuter database.

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS members are:

District of Columbia
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Maryland
Annapolis Regional Transportation Management Association (ARTMA)
Baltimore City
Baltimore Metropolitan Council
Bethesda Transportation Solutions
Harford County
Howard County Commuter Services
Montgomery County Commuter Services Section
North Bethesda Transportation Center
Prince George's County
TRANSIT Services of Frederick County
Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Virginia
City of Alexandria
Fairfax County RideSources
JNK
 Loudoun County
Northern Neck Planning District Commission
Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission
Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Rappahannock Area Development Commission (RADCO)
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Federal Agencies
Department of Defense - Pentagon
U.S. Department of Energy
National Institutes of Health
All other agencies: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

For more information about **COMMUTER CONNECTIONS** visit www.commuterconnections.org.

Commuter Connections

SAMPLE E-MAIL APPLICATION RECEIVED NOTIFICATION

From: Commuter Connections
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2003 5:28 PM
Subject: CCRS Approval Notice

Dear Commuter:

Thank you for your application for COMMUTER CONNECTIONS services. We have received your request and are reviewing your application. You should receive information regarding your request from us shortly.

Sincerely,

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS

www.commuterconnections.org

1-800-745-RIDE

7/14/2003

ITEM 10 - Information

June 18, 2003

**Briefing on Regional Mass Marketing Transportation Emission
Reduction Measure (TERM)**

Staff

Recommendation: Receive briefing on the Regional Mass Marketing
TERM

Issues: None

Background: The Regional Mass Marketing TERM was adopted for implementation in the FY 2004 Commuter Connections Work Program (CCWP) by the TPB on March 19 2003. By 2005, this measure is expected to reduce over 17,000 vehicle trips and 250,000 vehicle miles of travel daily.

The regional marketing campaign will encourage current single occupant vehicle (SOV) commuters to use transit, share rides, telecommute, bicycle, and walk, and will also encourage commuters currently using non-SOV modes to continue doing so. The initial strategies for the measure will be reviewed at a special work session prior to the July 16 TPB meeting.

**Commuter Connections
Regional Mass Marketing
Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM)**

~ Fact Sheet ~
June 2003

1. Background

- Commuter Connections regional mass marketing TERM adopted by TPB in 1997 to help meet conformity requirements.
- Objective to achieve additional emission reductions by reducing vehicle trips (VT) and vehicle miles of travel (VMT) made by commuters in single occupancy vehicles (SOV).
- Four-year development period for the program, from 2003 through 2007.

Period Ending	Daily Reductions			
	SOV Round Trips (VT)	VMT	NOx	VOC
2005	17,050	250,650	0.211	0.119
2007	34,100	501,300	0.422	0.238

- Multi-year regional TIP Funding Schedule starts out aggressively and gradually levels out to maintain customer base and Commuter Connections brand awareness.

FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08
\$1,275,000	\$1,020,000	\$815,000	\$600,000	\$500,000	\$400,000

- Rollout to begin Fall 2003.
- Contractor – Dudnyk Advertising & Public Relations
- Marketing campaign will provide year round focus and frequency for Commuter Connections within the Washington Region, and will enhance ongoing Commuter Connections marketing programs and those of other transit, ridesharing, and telecommuting activities.

2. Marketing Objectives

- Communicate to commuters the benefits of ridesharing (carpool/vanpool), mass transit, telecommuting, bicycling, and walking
- Establish Commuter Connections brand
- Create desired behavioral change from commuting in SOV to non-SOV
- Retain commuters currently in non-SOV modes

3. Inputs to Marketing Plan

- Past marketing initiatives
- Previous as well as new research on commuter attitudes and behavior
- Stakeholder input (Local Jurisdictions, TMA's, Transit Agencies, Telework Groups, etc.)
- Special Interest Group Input (Access For All, TPB/CAC)

4. Focus of Marketing Efforts

- Aimed primarily at commuters and secondarily at employers.
- Tailored advertising aimed at commuters within selected Regional Activity Centers and surrounding areas.
- Campaign will reach out to Hispanic groups as well as other non-English audiences.
- Marketing plan will consider use of:
 - Highway and Transit Signs
 - Traditional Broadcast Media
 - Online Advertising and Information
 - Community Outreach efforts.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

- As for other TERMS, this program will be monitored and periodically evaluated against its objectives.
- First monitoring/evaluation report due June 2005.

6. Next Steps

- Map out the specifics of the media plan and begin development of materials.
- TPB Work session on July 16th to review initial strategies.

MWCOG—Commuter Connections
Radio
ECT Campaign—"whiplash"
:60

ECT: Emergency Commuting Technicians. What seems to be the problem?

COMMUTER: (In obvious pain) It's my neck. I think I might have whiplash.

ECT: OK, sir. Why don't you tell me what happened.

COMMUTER: I was sitting here, inching along like normal. I'd just cursed out the little old lady in the next car and I was getting ready to lay some serious horn action on the guy ahead of me. Then all of a sudden, this van flies by me on the left. I strained my neck watching it. I mean it must have been going 55 mile-per-hour. What are they, nuts. They can't do that.

ECT: Actually, sir, they can. That's the HOV lane—reserved for vehicles with one or two more people, depending on the lane.

COMMUTER: Oh, I get it. VIPs, right? Figures.

ECT: Actually, sir. If you visit commuterconnections.org or call 1-800-745-RIDE Commuter Connections will help *you* hook up with a van or carpool. They can also tell you about bus and rail options, or even telecommuting. They'll help you find the commuting method that works best for you.

COMMUTER: commuterconnections.org, huh?

ECT: Or 1-800-745-RIDE that's right, sir.

COMMUTER: Hey, think they'll let me lean on the horn in the van?

ECT: I'm sure that won't be necessary, sir.

ANNCR: Call 1-800-745-RIDE or visit commuterconnections.org.
Commuter Connections—We're working to cure the common commute.

MWCOG—Commuter Connections
Radio
Change Your Day Campaign—"Tina"
:60

- BURRIS:** (Gruff) Tina, come with me. Pearson just called. He's stuck in traffic on the beltway—again. I need you to fill in for him in a presentation.
- TINA:** (Young, naïve) But Mr. Burriss, I'm just an assistant.
- BURRIS:** You were an assistant. Now you're our Director of Marketing. Got it? The client's already been waiting 15 minutes and who knows when that slacker Pearson will get here.
- TINA:** Gee, I guess Mr. Pearson should have called Commuter Connections.
- BURRIS:** Commuter what?
- TINA:** Commuter Connections. They help people find a better way to work. You just call 1-800-745-RIDE or log on to commuterconnections.org and they tell you about all the alternative connections available where you live. (Sounding considerably less naïve) That's how I always get here by 8:00 AM.
- BURRIS:** 8:00 AM, huh? Tina, when this meeting is over, why don't you move your things into Pearson's office. He doesn't seem to be spending much time in it.
- TINA:** Oh, thank you, Mr. Burriss. Does this mean I get an expense account?
- BURRIS:** Don't push your luck, kid.
- TINA:** Yes, sir.
- ANNCR:** Call Commuter Connections at 1-800-745-RIDE or visit commuterconnections.org to learn about your commuting options. Commuter Connections—it could change your whole day.

MWCOG—Commuter Connections
Radio
Testimonial Campaign—"Jan"
:60

(Actress should come across as not taking herself too seriously—somewhat self-deprecatory.)

Hi, my name is Jan and I'm a commuter. (laughs)

I used to spend about 90 minutes each way back forth between Fairfax and downtown. I can't tell you how many times I thought about quitting my job just to get out of the commute.

I heard some ads for Commuter Connections and I figured what's to lose, right?

So I called 1-800-745-RIDE. The person I talked to really knew her stuff. She gave a bunch of different options for getting to and from work—van pools, train stations with park and ride lots, bus routes. Within the week, she even gave me a "match" list of people looking for ridesharing partners, from my area.

I ended up joining a carpool group. With three of us, we can use the HOV lanes and that cuts 20-30 minutes off the ride each way.

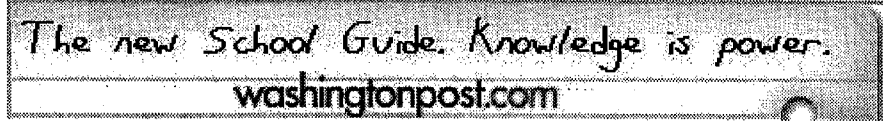
I still take my car in on the days when I'm going to need it. But I gotta tell you, I make sure I really NEED it.

If I could give commuters one piece of advice, it would be to call Commuter Connections at 1-800-745-RIDE or log on to commuterconnections.org. I don't want to sound too dramatic, but Commuter Connections really helped improve my quality of life.

ANNCR: Commuter Connections. Working to preserve commuter happiness since 1974.

- Jobs FIND / POST
- Cars BUY / SELL
- Real Estate BUY / RENT

- News Home Page
- Print Edition
- Front Page
- Front Page Image
- Inside the A Section
- Nation and Politics
- Editorial Pages
- World
- Business
- Metro
- Section Front Image
- * Articles Inside
- Metro
- Sports
- Style
- Previous Editions
- Sunday Sections
- The Extras
- Weekly Sections
- Subscription Form
- Nation
- World
- Metro
- Business
- Technology
- Sports
- Style
- Education
- Travel
- Health
- Real Estate
- Home & Garden
- Food
- Opinion
- Weather
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METRO
In Brief

Thursday, June 26, 2003; Page B03

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THE REGION

Five Employers Lauded for Easing Traffic

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Five area employers were recognized yesterday by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for helping to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution by encouraging employees to telework or to use public transportation, carpool, walk or ride a bicycle.

Receiving the Commuter Connections awards at a breakfast at the National Press Club were Social and Scientific Systems Inc. of Silver Spring, QED Consulting of Arlington, the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation's transportation services division and the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland.

VIRGINIA

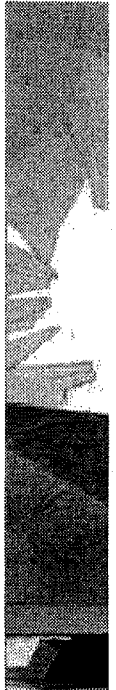
State Board Approves School Funding

Virginia's Board of Education yesterday approved spending recommendations that it said represent the unmet needs of public schools.

If approved by the General Assembly, the measures would require at least \$323 million in new funding annually. This year's state education budget is \$4.1 billion.

After the first review of the state's education funding formula in 15 years, the board found that local school divisions have increasingly picked up costs. It said the state should pay millions more each year to cover its share of programs, including part of the cost of art, music and physical education classes for elementary students.

Yesterday's meeting was the last for two Republican board members:



Experi
deeper
up onli
Or
MSN 8
firs



Employers awarded for promoting transportation

By JOHN ROSSOMANDO Journal staff writer

Wednesday's Code Red air conditions brought added meaning to an awards ceremony held to honor regional employers who offer unique transportation benefits.

The sixth annual ceremony, sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, recognizes companies that "create smarter workplaces" that conform with the MWCOG's air pollution reduction efforts, said spokesman Douglas Franklin.

The intergovernmental organization views employers who offer transportation benefits as an important way to combat regional air pollution. The region has until 2005 to comply with clean air standards mandated by the federal government.

Public and private sector employers were recognized in five categories for their efforts to promote transit, ridesharing and telecommuting among their employees.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Services Division won the 2003 overall Employer Services Organization Achievement Award because of its efforts "to provide excellent service to its customer base," said MWCOG Executive Director David Robertson.

Social & Scientific Systems Inc., based in Silver Spring, received the marketing award in recognition of its efforts to educate its employees about alternative transportation methods.

The company uses annual transportation fairs, newsletters and internal e-mail, included in its recruiting efforts and orientation program, said presenter Beverly LeMasters, marketing director for Montgomery County. It also has sponsored "Bike to Work" events and has a lifetime membership in the FlexCar program, she said.

"We are excited and happy that somebody decided to recognize us," said Social & Scientific Systems Human Resources Specialist Dana Williams.

Meanwhile, QED Consulting Inc., of Arlington, received the Incentives Award for its location near a Metrorail station and offering of \$100 monthly Metrocheks for its 44 employees, of which 14 participate. The company also offers preferred parking for carpools and showers for biking employees, said presenter William Menczer of the Federal Transit Administration.

The Office of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which monitors the Internal Revenue Service, received recognition for its efforts to encourage its employees to work from home.

The office has 950 employees nationwide at 78 sites, and of the 227 employees in the Washington area, 55 percent telework on occasion.

All desktop computers have been replaced with dockable laptops that use a dial-in network, said Mary Bray, executive director of the Washington Metropolitan Telework Centers.

"The agency promotes the program on their Intranet site ... and the program has become a way to attract

[a] motivated and skilled group of employees," Bray said.

In addition to awarded employers, 76 others were placed on the first annual Greater Washington, D.C., Region's Best Commuters list. The list recognizes employers for meeting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency minimum requirements for outstanding commuter benefits.

Recognized companies included Discovery Communications, of Silver Spring; the City of Rockville; and Halliburton, of Arlington, among others.

MWCOG figures estimate these employers' combined efforts will help reduce more than 50,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide every year, which helps the environment.

Copyright - The Journal Newspapers

Byline=JOHN_ROSSOMANDO; Aspect=JOHN_ROSSOMANDO; Aspect=Montgomery_Journal;
Aspect=26.06.2003;
Aspect=LOCAL_PAGE; Aspect=11; Aspect=A;

The 1st Annual Greater Washington DC Region's 2003 Best Workplaces for CommutersSM List

- American Intellectual Property Law Association,
Arlington, VA
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association,
Rockville, MD
- ANSER, *Arlington, VA*
- Army Historical Foundation, *Arlington, VA*
- Association of International Auto Manufacturers,
Arlington, VA
- Board of Arlington County, *Arlington, VA*
- Breakthrough Technologies Institute,
Washington, DC
- CALIBRE, *Alexandria, VA*
- Calvert Group, *Bethesda, MD*
- CAS, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- Children's Environmental Health Network,
Washington, DC
- City of Rockville, *Rockville, MD*
- Clover Management, *Arlington, VA*
- Conservation International, *Washington, DC*
- Consumer Electronics Association, *Arlington, VA*
- Council for Exceptional Children, *Arlington, VA*
- Dairy Management Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- Designers and Planner, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- Destination Sales and Marketing Group, Ltd.,
Arlington, VA
- Discovery Communications, Inc., *Silver Spring, MD*
- Eagle Design & Management, Inc., *Bethesda, MD*
- ECG Management Consultants, *Arlington, VA*
- Educational Research Service, *Arlington, VA*
- Electronic Industries Alliance, *Arlington, VA*
- Electrotek Concepts, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- ERG, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- ESI International, *Arlington, VA*
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
Washington, DC
- Federal Election Commission, *Washington, DC*
- Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers,
Washington, DC
- Fu Associates, *Arlington, VA*
- Gas Appliances Manufacturers Association,
Arlington, VA
- GEICO Direct, *Chevy Chase, MD*
- General Services Administration, *Washington, DC*
- George Mason University, *Arlington, VA*
- Halliburton, *Arlington, VA*
- High Performance Technologies, *Arlington, VA*
- ICF Consulting Group,
Fairfax, VA and Washington DC
- InfoEdge Technology, *Arlington, VA*
- JE Austin Associates, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- Jorge Scientific Corporation, *Arlington, VA*
- Laughlin, Marinaccio, & Owens, Inc., *Arlington, VA*
- Manufacturer's Alliance, *Arlington, VA*
- MCG Capital Corporation, *Arlington, VA*
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments,
Washington, DC
- National Computer Systems, *Arlington, VA*
- National Institutes of Health, *Bethesda, MD*
- National Milk Producers Federation, *Arlington, VA*
- National Rural Electric Cooperative Association,
Arlington, VA
- National Science Foundation, *Arlington, VA*
- National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association,
Alexandria, VA
- National Telecommunications Cooperative
Association, *Arlington, VA*
- Number 6 Software, *Arlington, VA*
- Q.E.D. Consulting, LLC, *Arlington, VA*
- RAND, *Arlington, VA*
- Raytheon Systems, *Arlington, VA*
- Reed Fax, *Arlington, VA*
- Social & Scientific Systems, Inc., *Silver Spring, MD*
- Syracuse Research Corporation, *Arlington, VA*
- System Planning Corporation, *Arlington, VA*
- The Aerospace Corporation, *Arlington, VA*
- U.S. Commodities Futures Trading Commission
Washington, DC
- U.S. Dairy Export Council, *Arlington, VA*
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, *Washington, DC*
- U.S. Department of Commerce, *Washington, DC*
- U.S. Department of Energy, *Washington, DC*
- U.S. Department of Transportation, *Washington, DC*
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Washington, DC
- U.S. Government Printing Office, *Washington, DC*
- U.S. Office of Personnel Management,
Washington, DC
- U.S. Sentencing Commission, *Washington, DC*
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority,
Washington, DC
- WAVA / WABS, *Arlington, VA*
- Westfield Realty, *Arlington, VA*
- WWZZ Radio – Bonneville International Radio
Arlington, VA
- Wyle Laboratories, *Arlington, VA*