

# **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

FY2017 Second Half Marketing Campaign Summary Draft Report

Commuter Connections Regional TDM Marketing Group

March 21, 2017



## **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	
Introduction	4
Ridematching	8
Guaranteed Ride Home	19
Commuter Connections Website	33
Bike to Work Day	35
Employer Recognition Awards	44
'Pool Rewards	45
Newsletter and Federal ETC Insert	49
Clean Air Partners	51

## Appendix

Α.	Performance Measures	. 52
В.	Digital Advertising Results	53
C.	Spring Media Schedules	54
D.	Spring Media Spend	55

### **Executive Summary**

#### **Overview**

This document summarizes Commuter Connections marketing activity occurring between January and June 2017. Through the regional TDM Mass Marketing effort, Commuter Connections delivers a brand promise as the regional solution for commuters seeking alternative transportation options within the Washington D.C. region. The use of media and other forms of communication at high reach and frequency levels are used to influence commuters most likely to shift away from single occupant vehicle (SOV) travel. The regional marketing campaign also aims to encourage continued use of non-SOV modes of commuting.

The marketing initiative was built on TDM research (demographic, behavioral, and attitudinal aspects of commuters in the Washington region), past campaign experience, network member feedback, and economic conditions. The overall objective of the regional TDM Mass Marketing project is to meet Transportation Emission Reduction Measure (TERM) impact goals.

The regional TDM Mass Marketing initiative promotes Commuter Connections' Ridematching services and Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) programs. Through effective outreach, the marketing campaign aims to persuade SOV commuters to switch to alternative modes of travel, and current alternative mode users to maintain and increase usage.

Other campaigns for the second half of FY17 include the promotion of 'Pool Rewards and Bike to Work Day. Bike to Work Day will be held on Friday in May 19, 2017 and celebrates bicycling as a clean, fun, and healthy way to get to work. 'Pool Rewards is a program geared toward encouraging SOV commuters to carpool or vanpool through monetary incentives.

#### **Mass Marketing Campaign**

The FY2017 second half media campaign, promoting Ridesharing and GRH, uses new advertising developed for spring FY2017, in both audio and visual forms. Campaign creative selected by the marketing workgroup were themed, "A Couple Clicks" for Rideshare, and "Problem. Solved." for GRH. Four radio ads, two Rideshare and two GRH, were produced in January 2017. Both Rideshare and GRH campaigns kicked off the third and fourth week of February, respectively. The campaign will run for a total of sixteen weeks, alternating weeks between Rideshare and GRH. The total cost of the Rideshare media buy is \$334,363, and the total cost of the GRH media buy is \$223,006. Total estimated net impressions for the second half FY2017 Spring Umbrella campaign are 103,690,500.

The FY2017 second half media campaign also includes promoting GRH in the Baltimore region, using new advertising developed for spring FY2017 radio and social media. Two GRH radio ads will run for a total of eight weeks, starting at the end of February and running through the third week in June. The total cost of the GRH Baltimore media buy is \$32,495 and is estimated to net 2,765,650 impressions.

## Value Add Promotions

Based on paid media, \$72,480 in value add was negotiated in the form of additional Rideshare and GRH exposure. Value add varies from no-charge radio ads, brief promotional messages, radio personality social media posts, and banner ads on station web sites.

### **Messaging Strategy**

Rideshare's "A Couple Clicks is All it Takes" campaign is promoting the ease of finding a ridematch through Commuter Connections. Once you sign up online, a couple clicks will find a ridematch and save money, making the commute more positive. Quality of life is improved, stress is reduced, and the overall effort to reduce congestion is positively impacted. Rideshare advertising is airing on a mix of music, news, and Hispanic radio stations. Other marketing and advertising includes podcasts, digital and online, out of home, as well as social media.

The messaging for GRH is "Problem. Solved." By registering or re-registering ahead of time, commuters who use alternative transportation can rest assured that when unexpected issues arise, they can get home - guaranteed. By presenting the problem, then how simple it is to solve with GRH, Commuter Connections positively overcomes an area of concern and opens the possibility of alternatives to SOV commuting to the audience. GRH registration is positioned as an easy step that will pay off when the audience finds themselves confronted with late nights, illness, or unexpected emergencies. Reminder to register or renew is included in the messaging. GRH advertising is placed on a mix of music, and news radio stations, YouTube, social media, online, and digital media.

#### **Bike to Work Day**

The Committee selected lavender as the 2017 color, along with a new visual concept for the marketing materials. A sponsor drive, focusing on area companies and organizations, culminated in cash sponsorships of \$54,550 and in-kind sponsorships totaling \$8,495. Radio, flyers (English and Spanish), rack cards, posters, T-shirts, vinyl banners, and earned media make up the campaign. The registration goal for Bike to Work Day 2017 was set at 18,600 participants.

### **'Pool Rewards**

Print, realtor websites, Facebook, and LinkedIn ads are being used to promote 'Pool Rewards during the spring campaign. The campaign started February 20, 2017 and will run through March 31<sup>st</sup>, alternating on Rideshare weeks only. The campaign will promote the benefits and cost savings of the 'Pool Rewards program for carpools and vanpools. Messaging was created to simplify the steps and help explain how commuters can register for the program. The total cost of the 'Pool Rewards media buy is \$25,188. The Spring FY2017 campaign is estimated to net over 2,020,238 impressions.

#### **Employer Recognition Awards**

Award winners will be honored at a ceremony on June 22, 2017 at the National Press Club. The employer nomination period remained open through February 3, 2017. Summaries of each employer nomination were prepared and will be reviewed by the Selection Committee on March 24, 2017.

### **Clean Air Partners**

Commuter Connections will provide a sponsorship toward the Clean Air Partners marketing campaign for FY2017.

## Introduction

The FY2017 Marketing Communications Plan and Schedule, distributed to Commuter Connections' network members in September 2016, served as a tool to outline marketing plans for FY2017. The strategy behind the FY2017 campaign reflects the state of events for the regions' commuters, and builds upon findings from the following reports:

- 2013 State of the Commute Survey Report.
- 2013 Commuter Connections GRH program Survey Report.
- FY2015 Commuter Connections Applicant Database Annual Placement Survey Report.
- FY2012-FY2014 Commuter Connections TERM Analysis Report.
- 2013 Bike to Work Survey TERM Analysis Report.

The second half of FY2017 includes the following actions:

- Launch of the new spring FY2017 regional mass marketing campaign.
- SafeTrack e-notification alerts.
- Promoting the CarpoolNow App.
- Marketing support for the 'Pool Rewards.
- Winter and spring newsletters, in both print and e-newsletter versions.
- Planning and implementing the Bike to Work Day 2017 event.
- Planning and implementing the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Employer Recognition Awards.
- Planning stages of the Car Free Day 2017 event.

## **About Commuter Connections**

Commuter Connections is a regional network of transportation organizations coordinated through the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG). Commuter Connections offers free commuter services to those who work in the Washington metropolitan area. Major services include ridematching for carpools and vanpools, and administration of the Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program in both Washington and Baltimore. Through its Employer Outreach Representatives, Commuter Connections also assists employers establish commuter benefit programs for their employees, including teleworking.

Organizations represented in the Commuter Connections Regional TDM Marketing Group include:

- Arlington County Commuter Services
- Bethesda Transportation Solutions
- City of Alexandria Local Motion
- District Department of Transportation
- Dulles Area Transportation Association
- Fairfax City
- Fairfax Connector
- Fairfax County Office of Transportation
- General Services Administration
- GW Ride Connect
- LINK
- Loudoun County Office of Transportation Services
- Maryland Department of Transportation
- Maryland State Highway Administration
- Maryland Transit Administration
- Montgomery County Commuter Services
- Montgomery County Ride On
- National Institutes of Health
- North Bethesda Transportation Center
- Northern Neck Rideshare/PDC

- Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
- Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission
- Prince George's County Department of Transportation
- Rappahannock Area Development
   Commission
- Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
- TransIT Services of Frederick County
- Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
- Tysons Partnership Transportation
   Council
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
- Virginia Department of Transportation
- Virginia Railway Express
- vRide
- Washington Area Bicyclist Association
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

## **Cornerstones of the Marketing Campaign**

The primary services featured in the marketing campaign are GRH and Ridematching. Both are integral to growing the regional database and making it easier for commuters to find and maintain shared ride arrangements. Other areas included in marketing outreach include transit, bicycling and teleworking.

The objectives of the marketing campaign are to:

- Emphasize the cost savings benefits of ridesharing, specifically through the use of simple, direct messages that communicate how sharing a ride saves money.
- Emphasize the time saving benefits of using HOV and Express Lanes.
- Capitalize on the Commuter Connections mobile Ridematching and real-time ridesharing capabilities.
- Position Commuter Connections as the trusted, convenient regional provider of Ridematching services for over forty years.
- Draw on the additional savings of 'Pool Rewards as further incentive within Rideshare ads.
- Encourage commuters who use public transportation, bicycling, or walking to register for GRH.
- Position GRH as a safety net for ridesharing and public transportation use, available to commuters in case of unscheduled overtime, or an unexpected personal or family emergency or illness.
- Promote Guaranteed Ride Home to alternative commute mode users in both the Washington and Baltimore metropolitan regions, plus St. Mary's County.
- Increase the number of participants in Bike to Work Day, based on set committee goals.
- Promote employer efforts to ease regional commuting issues through earned media placements, and highlight the Employer Recognition Awards; incorporate human interest stories of commuters using alternative commute modes and/or employers offering outstanding commuter benefits.
- Increase reach to younger, Spanish, and African American audiences.
- Focus more on 'Pool Rewards through realtors and direct mail resources.
- Reduce work trips.
- Leverage umbrella campaign value add to support SafeTrack messaging.
- Promote CarpoolNow, the real-time on demand Ridematching app.

#### **Brand Character**

Commuter Connections is a network of organizations working to improve commutes. Through Commuter Connections' online ridematching system, commuters registering for the service will be given direct access to others who are looking to carpool, along with an access to commute routes and other alternative mode options such as transit, bicycling, and teleworking. As more people share the ride to work, they positively affect air quality and traffic congestion for the region.

## Spring 2017 Campaign

The Spring Media campaign, promoting GRH and Ridesharing, started the third week of February and will run through June. For Rideshare, radio is the primary media, with spots running for a total of eight weeks. Podcasts, online banner ads, digital text ads, and social media are running for eight weeks. GRH will include YouTube, digital text ads, social media, and online (web, tablet, and mobile banner ads) for eight weeks.

## **Ridematching Campaign**

## **Messaging Strategy**

The second half of the FY2017 Rideshare campaign "A Couple Clicks is All it Takes" is promoting the ease of finding a ridematch through Commuter Connections. Once you sign up online, a couple clicks will find a ridematch and save money, making the commute more positive.



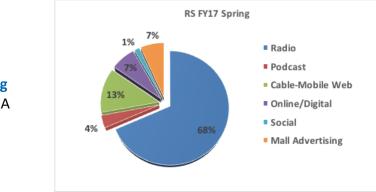
### Media Objectives: Rideshare

The spring FY2017 media campaign promotes the Ridematching program using a mix of traditional approaches to increase awareness of shared ride modes, retain current ridership, and gain new riders and new applicants to the regional database. Ridesharing is as an ideal commute alternative for longer distance commutes, especially around HOV corridors, due to highway congestion and fewer transit options.

## **Target Market**

FY2015 Commuter Connections Applicant Database Annual Placement Survey Report:

- 35-64 years old (84%)
- Caucasian (68%) and African-American (18%)
- \$80,000+ annual household income (71%)
- Commute of more than 20 miles/30 minutes
- Live in Virginia (60%) or Maryland (36%); work in D.C. (54%) or Virginia (27%)
- Work for employers with 100+ employees (80%), with 1,000+ employees (45%)
- Work for federal agencies (67%) and private sector (20%)



Geographic Targeting Washington D.C. DMA

Rideshare Spring Budget	MWCOG Cost	Gross Cost	Estimated Impressions
Dadia	¢228.862.00	¢200.250.00	47 804 400
Radio	\$228,863.00	\$269,250.00	47,894,400
Podcast	\$12,000.00	\$14,118.00	4,889,120
Cable – Mobile web	\$42,500.00	\$50 <i>,</i> 000.00	
Online/Digital	\$23,600.00	\$27,765.40	1,910,000
Mall Advertising	\$22,400.00	\$26,353.60	300,000
Social Media	\$5,000.00	\$5,882.50	1,460,000

Totals \$334,363.00 \$393,369.50 56,453,520

## Radio & Podcasts

Radio is the anchor media for the Rideshare campaign, with a mix of station formats including music, news, and Hispanic. A new media added to the mix for this campaign are Podcasts on news and sports stations.

- WTOP (103.5 News/Talk)
- WLZL El Zol (107.9 Spanish)
- WPGC (95.5 Urban AC)
- ESPN (980 Sports)
- WFRE (99.9 Country)
- WAMU (88.5 Public Radio)
- WFMD (930 AM News/Talk)
- WAMU Kojo Nnamdi Podcast
- Comcast SportsNet Redskins, Capitals, Wizards Podcasts

The Rideshare radio campaign is alternating for eight weeks, starting February 20<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The following ads are promoting the Ridematching program in both English and Spanish languages:

#### Ridesharing :30 "A Couple Clicks to Share" English

Man: A couple of clicks is all it takes. To pay your bills. To share your thoughts with millions. To make a stand for what's right. And now, to share a ride. When you want, where you want, a couple clicks can give you more options to more places. It's also on demand, and can match you with someone along your route. There's a lot more too, but most important—it's free.

Announcer: Ridematching. Register today at Commuter Connections dot org. That's Commuter Connections dot org, or call 800.745.RIDE. Try our new CarpoolNow app for ridesharing on demand.

#### Ridesharing :30 "A Couple Clicks to Share" Spanish

Hombre: Solo se necesita un par de tecleos para pagar tus facturas, compartir tus pensamientos con millones de personas, para defender lo que es correcto, y ahora para compartir tu ruta diaria, cuando quieras a donde quieras. Solo un par de tecleos te dan la opcion a ir a mas lugares. Lo haces por internet y puedes encontrar a alquien con quien compartir tu ruta. Y hay mucho mas, pero lo mas importante es que ES GRATIS.

Anunciate: Ridematching registrate hoy en Commuter Connections punto ORG o llama al 800745RIDE. Prueba nuestra aplicacion CarpoolNow para compatir tu viaje diario.

## Ridesharing :30 "A Couple Clicks to Save" English

Woman: A couple clicks can do a lot these days. Couple clicks and you've got 3 new credit cards. Couple more and they're maxed out. But guess what, now a couple clicks can save you money! That's all it takes to sign up and start saving on your commute. Get a match anywhere along your route, scheduled or on demand. It's free, and saves you every time you share.

Announcer: Find your ridematch options in a couple clicks. Register today, Commuter Connections dot org or call 800.745.RIDE. Try our new CarpoolNow app for ridesharing on demand.

## Ridesharing :30 "A Couple Clicks to Save" Spanish

Mujer: Con un par de tecleos se puede hacer mucho estos días. Con un par de tecleos ya tienes tres tarjetas de crédito. Unos tecleos mas y ya están llenas. Adivina qué? Con un par de tecleos puedes ahorrar dinero. Ese es el tiempo que lleva inscribirse y empezar a ahorrar en tu ruta cotidiana. Puedes encontrar a otros en la ruta con el mismo horario y que están buscando compartir viaje. Es gratis, así que ahorras cada vez que lo uses.

Anunciate: Encuentra opciones para compartir tecleando. Regístrate hoy en Commuter Connections punto ORG o llama al 800745RIDE. Prueba la aplicación CarpoolNow para compartir tu ruta cotidiana.

## **Podcasts**

The Rideshare podcast campaign is alternating for eight weeks on WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi and ComcastSportsNet and is running during Redskins, Capitals, and Wizards podcasts, starting February 20<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The following ads are promoting the Ridematching program:

## WAMU "A Couple Clicks to Share :15

Support for WAMU 88-5 and programs like this comes from Commuter Connections. A Couple Clicks Is All It Takes to pay your bills... To share your thoughts... and now, to share a ride. When you want, where you want, A Couple Clicks provides more options to more places for free. Call eight-hundred, seven-four-five, RIDE.

## WAMU "A Couple Clicks to Share :30

Support for WAMU 88-5 and programs like this comes from Commuter Connections. A couple of clicks is all it takes. To pay your bills. To check the weather. To share your thoughts with friends and family. And now, to share a ride. When you want, where you want, a couple clicks can provide more options to more places - on demand or en route. There's more too, but perhaps most important—it's free. Registration for ride-sharing is available on demand through the new CarpoolNow app. More at Commuter Connections dot org or 800.745.RIDE.

## ComcastSportsNet "A Couple Clicks to Share :15

A couple clicks is all it takes to pay your bills, to share your thoughts. And now, to share a ride. When you want, where you want, a couple clicks gives you more options to more places - for free!

Register to rideshare today at Commuter Connections dot org or 800.745.RIDE. Try our new CarpoolNow app too!

## Value Add

#### Rideshare

In addition to paid media spots, an estimated \$48,060 was negotiated in no cost promotional media. Select radio stations are providing bonus spots and WTOP.com is rotating bonus banner ads at no charge. No charge radio :30 spots and WTOP.com banner ads are being used to promote SafeTrack and the new dynamic Rideshare App, CarpoolNow.

### SafeTrack Surges Value Add :30

320x50 banner ad

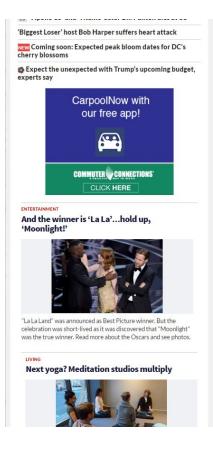
Metro's SafeTrack surges continue. Chances are, whether or not you take Metrorail, you're going to feel it - with shutdowns spanning over the next few weeks.

Commuter Connections has options! From our new CarpoolNow dynamic ridematching app to bus, bicycling, or telecommuting – we have great alternatives to get you over this hump. As always, Commuter Connections services are free!

Download our CarpoolNow app at the App Store, Google Play, BlackBerry World, or visit Commuter Connections dot org or call 800.745.RIDE for info.



#### 300x250 banner ad



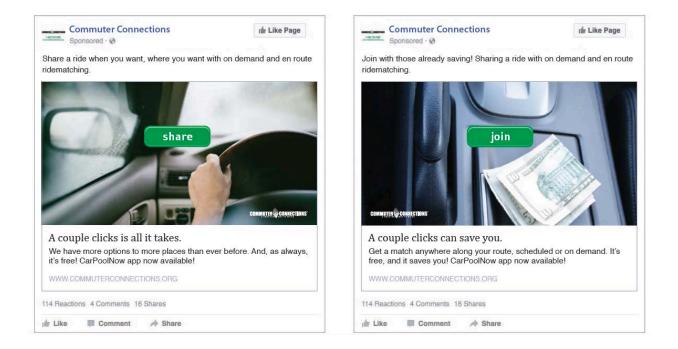
## **Comcast SportsNet Homepage Takeover**



#### **Social Media Advertising**

Social Media advertising utilizing Facebook is promoting the Ridematching program. Geotargeting capabilities allow Ridematching messages to reach audiences throughout the region. Sponsored ads will be posted for eight weeks, from February 20<sup>th</sup> through the end of June, with performance monitoring and optimization throughout the campaign.

The ads will display Rideshare visuals with a call to action to visit commuterconnections.org.



## **Online & Digital Advertising**

Rideshare digital banner ads promoting how easy it is, with just a couple clicks, to save money, find a ride, tap into benefits, and make your commute more positive, are running on WTOP.com and ComcastSportsNet. A Google Adwords campaign is alternating every other week from February 20<sup>th</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup>. Rideshare ad messages display in Google's search results. Select Rideshare keywords will be used throughout the campaign, monitored, and optimized to be sure Commuter Connections is reaching the most people with the least cost per click (CPC).

Image: State

A couple clicks is all it takes.

A couple clicks is all it takes.

Rideshare.

Free Ridematching & Commuter Services<br/>Sign Up Now.

COMMUTER, CONNECTIONS

Free Ridematching &<br/>Commuter Services<br/>Sign Up Now.

Ridesharing "A Couple Clicks Is All It Takes", "A Couple Clicks Can Save You"

#### Google Keywords:

cab real time traffic commute carpooling dc metro real time car car service commuter commuting pooling carpool DC Traffic real time ride taxi express lanes ride sharing work from home traffic cameras on demand car share a ride pool Sharing a ride traffic report on demand carpool Sharing rides hov lane on demand lyft ride Slug traffic cams carpooling slugger on demand car dmv traffic slugging pooling taxi cab telework on demand telecommute vanpool ridesharing telecommuting rideshare uber ride on demand ride traffic traffic congestion sharing car pool park and ride lot weather highway real time car pool uber construction lyft taxi ride real time carpool

weather forecast

cab ride

## Google Ad Group Ads:

H1: Share A Ride to WorkH2: Save Time and Money Every DayText: A free service from Commuter Connections. Sign up today to Rideshare.

H1: Rideshare to WorkH2: Save Time and Money On Your CommuteText: Find your options free with Commuter Connections. Sign up today and save.

H1: Carpool, Vanpool, Bike, WalkH2: A New Commute Can Save Time and MoneyText: Free info on commute options. Sign up at Commuter Connections.

H1: Less Stressful CommutesH2: Save Time, Money, And Stress!Text: Free info to upgrade your commute. Rideshare, sign up to get started.

#### **Out of Home Advertising**

Rideshare ads are posted at Fashion Centre at Pentagon City, March through June. Three-sided table tents are positioned at 50 food court tabletops, and replenished by mall staff as needed. Back-lit ad panels are posted in high traffic areas, including entrances, and visitors using the directory. Busy malls allow Ridematching messages to reach audiences through a cost-effective marketing effort.



Table Tent



Ad Panel





## **Guaranteed Ride Home Campaign**

### **Messaging Strategy**

The second half of the FY2017 GRH campaign focus is on registration and re-registration, promoting how quick and easy GRH can support the choice to Rideshare and use other more sustainable transportation alternatives. Messaging first shows the problem, then how simple it is to solve it with GRH. Registration is positioned as an easy step that will pay off when the audience finds themselves confronted with late nights, illness, or unexpected emergencies. Recorded 30-second spots are a reminder to register, or renew, as well as reinforce the assurance that GRH provides a free, guaranteed way to get home in case of an unexpected emergency, illness, or unscheduled overtime.



### Media Objectives: Guaranteed Ride Home

The campaign is focusing on raising awareness of the GRH program among commuters and increasing registrants and re-registrations. GRH leverages alternative transportation by removing one of the perceived barriers: how to get home in case of an unexpected emergency.

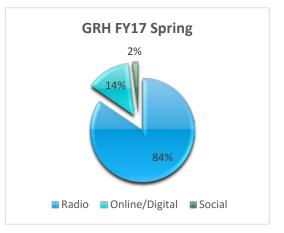
## Target market

2013 Commuter Connections Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program Survey Report :

- 35-64 years old (86%)
- Male (52%)/Female (48%)
- Caucasian (73%) and African-American (16%)
- \$80,000+ annual household income (84%), \$120,000+ annual household income (53%)
- Avg one-way distance 35.4 miles. 61% commute 30 or more miles to work one-way.
- Lives in Virginia (60%) or Maryland (36%) or District of Columbia (2%)
- Top five home jurisdictions are Prince William (19%), Fairfax, (12%), Stafford (8%), Loudoun (7%), and Montgomery (6%)
- Works in D.C (61%), Maryland (11%) and Virginia (28%)
- Avg one-way commute time 66 minutes; 71% commute more than 45 minutes each way, and 45% commute more than an hour each way.

## **Geographic Targeting**

Washington D.C. DMA



GRH Spring Budget	MWCOG Cost	Gross Cost	Estimated Impressions
Radio	\$188,406.75	\$221,655.00	42,626,480
Online/Digital	\$30,600.08	\$36,000.99	4,050,500
Social Media	\$4,000.00	\$4,706.00	560,000
Totals	\$223,006.83	\$262,361.99	47,236,980

## Radio

Radio is the anchor media for the GRH campaign. Station formats include a mix of news and music:

- WTOP (103.5 News Talk)
- WASH (97.1 AC)
- WMZQ (98.7 Country)
- WWDC (DC101.1 Rock)
- WIHT-FM (99.5 Top 40)

The GRH radio campaign started in late February and is running every other week through the end of June 2017. The following spots are promoting GRH for the second half of FY2017, every other week over an eight-week span.

## Guaranteed Ride Home :30 Problem. Solved "Work Late"

- Man: Problem? Well, it WAS a problem when my boss let me know I had to work late. You know the drill, last minute proposal, unscheduled overtime? And, like clockwork, my vanpool leaves at 5. Lucky for me, I signed up for Guaranteed Ride Home. Problem, solved.
- Announcer: Guaranteed Ride Home from Commuter Connections. A free ride home if you rideshare. Just register or renew today at commuterconnections.org. That's commuterconnections.org. Some restrictions apply.

### Guaranteed Ride Home: :30 Problem. Solved "Emergency"

- Woman: Problem? Well, it could have been a problem when I had an unexpected emergency on a day that I rideshare. You know, stuck at work, can't get home, throws off your whole week, so you send around sad, tear-streaked emoticons to all your friends? Lucky for me, I registered for Guaranteed Ride Home. Problem, solved.
- Announcer: Guaranteed Ride Home from Commuter Connections. A free ride home if you rideshare. Register or renew today at commuterconnections.org, or call 800.745.RIDE. Some restrictions apply.

### YouTube

YouTube videos were created to promote the GRH campaign in both 15-second and 30-second lengths. YouTube is the second-largest search engine in the world, behind Google (which owns YouTube). These online videos are used to promote GRH registration and re-registration to support the choice to rideshare. Geo-targeted messaging can easily be shared via other forms of social media and websites, and encourage viewer engagement with a call to action.





## **GUARANTEED RIDE HOME**

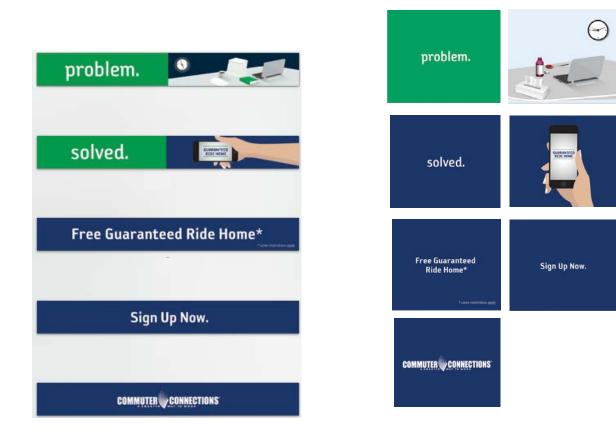
A FREE RIDE HOME IF YOU RIDESHARE TO WORK

#### **Online and Digital Advertising**

Display, mobile, tablet, and mobile in-app advertising is running on iHeart Radio and WTOP's digital sites to promote the GRH program. Banner ads reinforce the benefits of the GRH program to audiences in Washington, DC regions for eight weeks, from February through June. Performance is monitored and optimized throughout the campaign.

A Google Adwords campaign is alternating every other week from February 27<sup>th</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup>. GRH text ad messages are served up for matched key word search results. Select GRH keywords will be used throughout the campaign, monitored, and optimized to be sure Commuter Connections is reaching the most people with the least cost per click (CPC).

The ads display CarpoolNow visuals with a call to action to visit commuterconnections.org.



### iHeart Radio and WTOP.com Ads

#### Google Keywords:

cab commute commuter commuting DC Traffic express lanes on demand car loog on demand carpool on demand carpooling on demand car pooling on demand ridesharing on demand ride sharing park and ride lot real time car pool real time carpool

real time carpooling real time car pooling real time ride ride sharing share a ride Sharing a ride Sharing rides Slug slugger slugging taxi cab telecommute telecommuting traffic traffic congestion weather uber lyft weather forecast

traffic dc metro car service carpool taxi work from home traffic cameras traffic report hov lane lyft ride traffic cams dmv traffic telework vanpool rideshare uber ride car pool highway construction taxi ride cab ride

#### Google Ad Group – Ads:

H1: Free Ride Home From WorkH2: For Those Who RideshareText: Don't get stuck on the job when you're sick. Sign up today.

H1: Rideshare w/ Guaranteed Ride HomeH2: Get Home In An Unexpected EmergencyText: Free program for commuters. Register or renew today.

H1: Guaranteed Ride HomeH2: From Commuter ConnectionsText: A free ride home from work if you rideshare. Register today.

H1: Guaranteed Ride HomeH2: Insurance For RidesharingText: Free ride home from work, for those who rideshare. Register or renew today.

#### Facebook





## Value Add

In addition to paid media spots, an estimated \$24,420 was negotiated in no-charge promotional media. All radio stations will provide no-charge bonus spots and banner ads promoting SafeTrack and the new dynamic rideshare app, CarpoolNow.

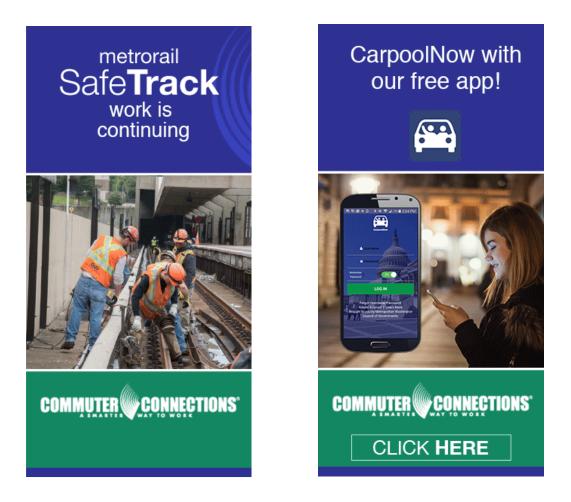
## SafeTrack Surges Value Add :30

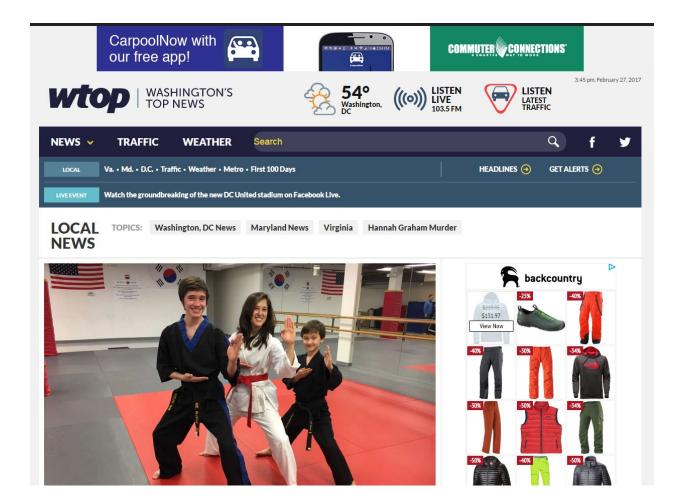
Metro's SafeTrack surges continue. Chances are, whether or not you take Metrorail, you're going to feel it - with shutdowns spanning over the next few weeks.

Commuter Connections has options! From our new CarpoolNow dynamic carpooling app to bus, bicycling, and telecommuting – we have great alternatives to get you over this hump. As always, Commuter Connections services are free!

Download our CarpoolNow app at the App Store, Google Play, BlackBerry World, or visit commuter connections dot org or call 800.745.RIDE for info.

WTOP.com is running several different sized banner ads.





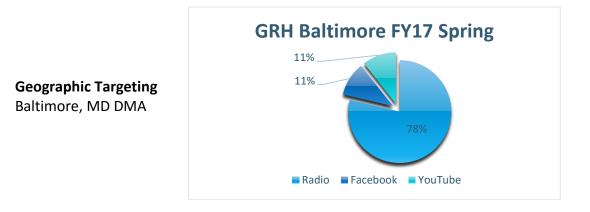
### **GRH Baltimore Media**

The GRH Baltimore campaign is focused on raising awareness of the GRH program among commuters in the Baltimore region and increasing registrants. Radio, YouTube, and Facebook ads from the DC region Spring Umbrella campaign are running in Baltimore to increase awareness on how to get home in case of an unexpected emergency, illness, or unscheduled overtime.

## Target market for Baltimore Metropolitan Region

2013 Commuter Connections GRH program Baltimore Region Survey Report:

- 25-64 years old (93%)
- Caucasian (64%) and African-American (21%), Asian (8%)
- Male (54%)/Female (46%)
- Annual household income \$40,000 \$79,999 (27%), \$80,000-119,999 (32%), \$120,000-\$159,999 (20%)
- Commute 40+ miles (33%) / more than 45 minutes (51%)
- Lives in Maryland (72%), Virginia (14%) or Pennsylvania (6%)
- Top five home jurisdictions are Baltimore City (21%), Baltimore County (15%), Harford (13%), Howard (6%), and Fairfax, VA (6%)
- Works in Maryland (100%)



GRH Baltimore Spring Budget	MWCOG Cost	Gross Cost	Estimated Impressions
Radio	\$29,495.00	\$34,700.00	1,800,650
YouTube	\$4,000.00	\$4,706.00	630,000
Facebook	\$4,000.00	\$4,706.00	335,000
Totals	\$37.495.00	\$44.112.00	2.765.650

## Radio

Radio is serving as the anchor media for the GRH Baltimore campaign. WBAL, Radio 1090 AM (News/Talk), will run GRH ads every other week from February 27<sup>th</sup> through June 25, 2017, for a total of eight weeks on air. The following spots are promoting GRH for the second half of FY2017:

## Guaranteed Ride Home :30 Problem. Solved "Work Late"

- Man: Problem? Well, it WAS a problem when my boss let me know I had to work late. You know the drill, last minute proposal, unscheduled overtime? And, like clockwork, my vanpool leaves at 5. Lucky for me, I signed up for Guaranteed Ride Home. Problem, solved.
- Announcer: Guaranteed Ride Home from Commuter Connections. A free ride home if you rideshare. Just register or renew today at commuterconnections.org. That's commuterconnections.org. Some restrictions apply.

### Guaranteed Ride Home: :30 Problem. Solved "Emergency"

- Woman: Problem? Well, it could have been a problem when I had an unexpected emergency on a day that I rideshare. You know, stuck at work, can't get home, throws off your whole week, so you send around sad, tear-streaked emoticons to all your friends? Lucky for me, I registered for Guaranteed Ride Home. Problem, solved.
- Announcer: Guaranteed Ride Home from Commuter Connections. A free ride home if you rideshare. Register or renew today at commuterconnections.org, or call 800.745.RIDE. Some restrictions apply.

### YouTube

YouTube videos created for the Metropolitan D.C. region will be used to promote the GRH Baltimore campaign in both 15-second and 30-second lengths. YouTube has the second-largest search engine in the world, behind Google. These online videos are used to promote GRH registration and re-registration to support the choice to rideshare. Problem. Solved. Geotargeted messaging can easily be shared via other forms of social media and websites, and encourage viewer engagement with a call to action.





## **GUARANTEED RIDE HOME**

A FREE RIDE HOME IF YOU RIDESHARE TO WORK

#### Facebook

Facebook will be used to engage and help drive registration and re-registration to the website. The same creative used in the Metropolitan D.C. region is being used in Baltimore.



### Value Add

In addition to paid media spots, an estimated \$5,120 was negotiated in no-charge promotional media. Both radio stations provided no-charge bonus spots. Commuter Connections is estimated to receive 2,765,650 impressions.

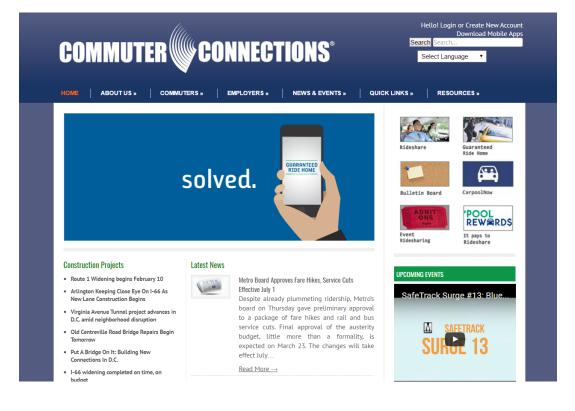
#### **Commuter Connections Website**

To provide a fully integrated user experience, the Commuter Connections website home page was updated with a new HTML5 file to match the visuals used in the new Rideshare and GRH campaigns.









# **Bike to Work Day**

#### **Sponsorship Drive**

In FY2017, Commuter Connections secured 20 cash sponsors for Bike to Work Day, generating \$54,550 for outdoor banners, paid social media, and the T-shirt giveaway. An additional \$8,495 in products and services were secured from nine in-kind sponsors for the regional bike raffle, and giveaway items.



#### Target market:

• All drivers.

#### **Geographic Targeting**

Washington D.C. DMA

Bike to Work Day Budget	MWCOG	Gross	Projected
	Cost	Dollars	Impressions
Radio	\$TBD	\$0	
Social Media	\$TBD	\$0	
Total Budget	\$60,000	\$	

#### **Marketing Strategies**

Posters were mailed to employers throughout the region, and to over 85 pit stop managers. Pit stop managers will distrubute the materials within their local neighborhoods and jurisdictions. A Spanish version of the poster was also created. T-shirt graphics, pit stop banners, paid social media, will be developed to promote the event.

#### Web Site



# **Bike to Work Day**

On Friday May 19, 2017 Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association invite you to celebrate bicycling as a clean, fun, and healthy way to get to work. Be one of the first 16,000 to register and attend a pit stop in D.C., MD, and VA to receive a free T-shirt, refreshments, and be entered into a raffle for a new bicycle.

2017 Registration Now Open



#### Pit Stops

Over 85 Bike to Work Day pit stop events will be held throughout D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. Take a break at a pit stop on your way to work for food, beverages, fun, and prizes. Register now, it's free! There are also a few pit stops open for your afternoon commute back. Read More...

# Commuter Convoys

Bicycle commuter convoys are forming now for Bike to Work Day on 2017. All bicyclists are welcome to join the free convoys and there's no need to sign up. Convoys are led by experienced bicycle commuters. Read More...



#### Event Poster

Download a PDF of the new Bike to Work

#### Find a Ride Buddy

Use the Washington Area Bike Forum to find

WABA's adult bicyclist education

#### **Posters English**



#### **Posters English/Spanish**



#### **Rack Card**

# ТО FRIDAY MAY 19

Register free at www.BIKETOWORKMETRODC.org or call 800.745.7433

Pre-Register by May 12 for free T-shirt\* and bike raffle!

FREE FOOD, BEVERAGES and **GIVEAWAYS** at all locations

Over 85 Bike to Work Day pit stops located in D.C., Maryland and Virginia!

Visit www.blketoworkmetrodc.org for specific pit stop locations and times.

\*T-shirts available at pit stops to first 16,000 registrants.





KFS

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS



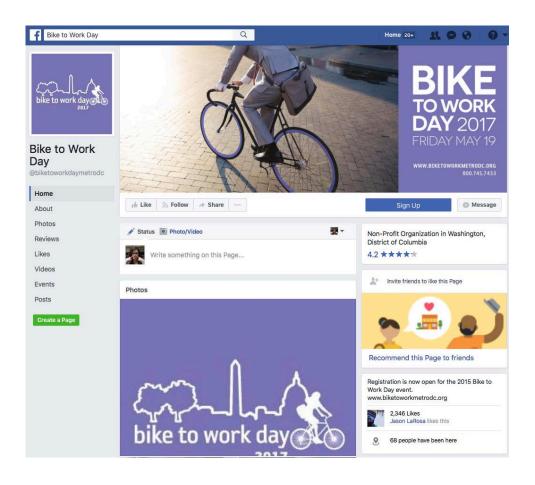
#### **Pit Stop Vinyl Banner**



#### **Social Media**

Facebook and Twitter were updated to match the color theme for 2017.

# facebook.

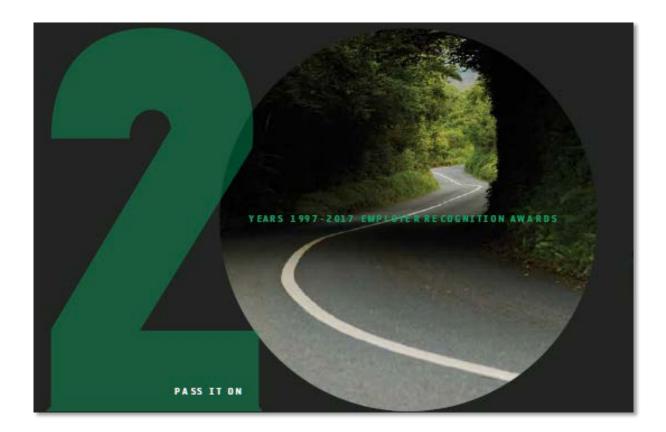






# **Employer Recognition Awards**

The Employer Recognition Awards program recognizes employers who initiate outstanding worksite commute benefits and/or telework programs to assist their employees. The nomination period ended February 3, 2017, and the Selection Committee will meet on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Winners and nominees will be honored at the 20th annual awards ceremony on June 22, 2017 at The National Press Club in Washington, D.C. To recognize the employer winners, a display ad will be placed in a major newspaper after the event.



# **'Pool Rewards**

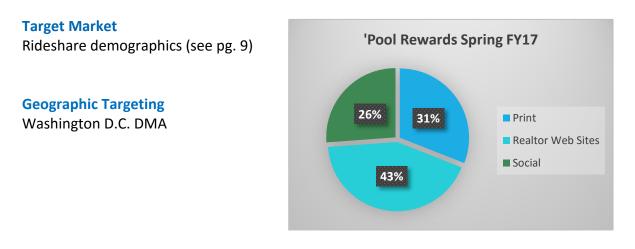
### **Spring Campaign**

'Pool Rewards is a program geared toward encouraging SOV commuters to carpool or vanpool through monetary incentives. A paid digital, print, and social media campaign is running in the spring to promote the benefits of the 'Pool Rewards program.



#### **Message Strategy**

The ads are running on Rideshare weeks, February 20<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. The ads encourage commuters to find a partner to start a new carpool/vanpool, mention the incentive offered, and encourage commuters to contact Commuter Connections.



Pool Rewards Spring	MWCOG Cost	Gross Cost	Estimated Impressions
Print	\$7,800.00	\$9,176.00	1,453,155
Realtor Websites	\$10,800.00	\$12,706.20	193,333
Facebook	\$3,300.00	\$3,882.45	193,125
LinkedIn	\$3,288.00	\$3,868.33	180,625
Totals	\$25,188.00	\$29,632.98	2,020,238

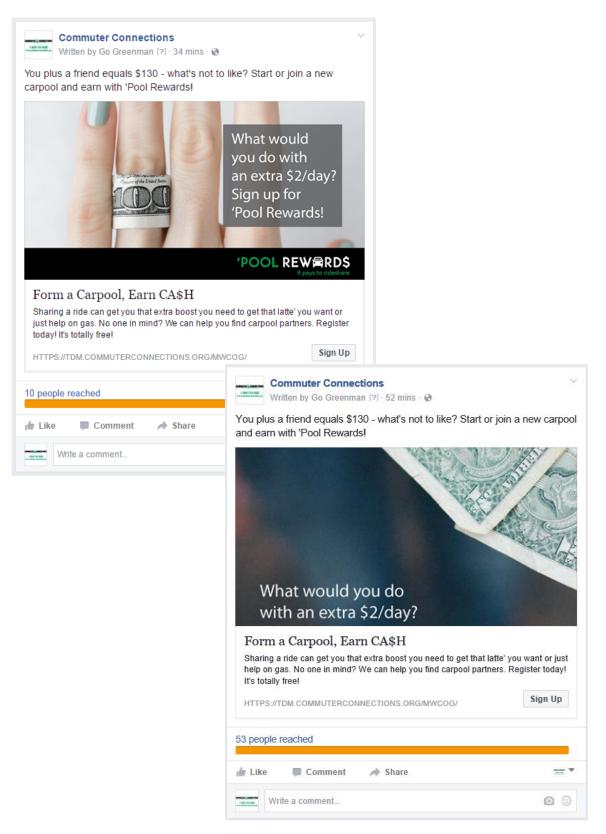
## **'Pool Rewards Print Ad – The Washington Post**



#### 'Pool Rewards Realtor.com Website Banner Ad



#### **'Pool Rewards Facebook Ads**



LinkedIn Ads





# **Commuter Connections Newsletter and Federal ETC Insert**

The winter edition of the Commuter Connections newsletter was produced during the second half of FY2017. The six page 4-color newsletters are produced and distributed quarterly to employers and stakeholders. It is also available in .pdf format on the Commuter Connections web site. Newsletters with a black & white Federal ETC insert were distributed in PDF form to Federal Employee Transportation Coordinators via GSA and placed online at www.federaletc.org.

#### Winter 2017 Newsletter and Federal ETC Insert



Page 49

#### **Commuter Connections E-Newsletter**

The winter 2017 edition of the Commuter Connections e-newsletter was distributed to the same recipients as the print version.



**Transform I-66 Comes with Multi-Modal Options** 

Work is underway to transform Northern Virginia's Interstate 66 into a multimodal corridor that moves traffic and people more quickly and reliably. Outside the Capital Beltway, the project scope includes two Express Lanes in each direction from I-495 to University Blvd in Gainesville, three general purpose lanes in each direction, new transit service, and several new park-and-ride lots. Inside the Beltway...<u>Read more</u>

# **Real-Time Ridematching - Try the Free CarpoolNow App!**

Carpool Now is the region's new Ridesharing app, giving commuters in the Washington, D.C. region the ability to carpool on-demand in real-time, immediately connecting users who are offering a ride with those seeking a ride...<u>Read More</u>

# **Clean Air Partners**

Commuter Connections provided a sponsorship toward the Clean Air Partners marketing campaign for FY2017\*. Clean Air Partners promoted Car Free Day on their web site and social media sites and encouraged its membership to take the pledge to go Car Free or Carlite. Clean Air Partners also produced a video for the Car Free Day web site about ways to go car free or car-lite.

\*Commuter Connections dollars spent were from the previous fiscal year.



# Appendix A

#### **Performance Measures**

#### Web Visits

Month	FY 2016 Web Visits	FY 2017 Web Visits	+/-	+/- %
Jan	11,990	13,708	1,718	14.3%
Feb	19,307	10,161	(9,146)	-47.4%
March				
April				
May				
June				
	31,297	23,869	(7,428)	-23.7%

# **Phone Calls**

Month	FY 2016 Phone Calls	FY 2017 Phone Calls	+/-	+/- %
Jan	1,111	942	(169)	-15.2%
Feb	1,198	1,155	(43)	-3.6%
March				
April				
May				
June				
	2,309	2,097	(212)	-9.2%

# Appendix B

# Digital Advertising – WTOP.com Results February 20 – March 21, 2017

WTOP.com Digital Campaign Performance	Ad Server Impressions Delivered	Ad Server Clicks	Ad Server CTR
Cross Platform RS 2/1 -2/26/17	384,153	350	0.09%
Cross Platform GRH 2/1 -2/26/17	385,364	549	0.14%
Cross Platform Week of 2/27/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 3/6/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 3/13/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 3/20/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 3/27/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 4/3/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 4/10/17			0.0%
Cross Platform Week of 4/17/17			0.0%
Total / Averages	769,517	899	

Note: National average CTR is .09%

# Appendix C

# FY2017 Spring Media Schedules

	Commuter Connections FY2017 Spring Umbrella					Media Schedule: Specific Dates Spots Run (Week of)																		
		Media Outlet	Format	Dial Position	Campaign to Run	2/20	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20	2/27	4/3	4/10	4/17	4/24	5/1	5/8	5/15	5/22	E /20	6/5	6/12	6/19	6/20
	1	WBIG-FM	Oldies/Classic Hits	100.3	2/27 - 6/25/17	2/20	2/2/	5/0	5/15	5/20	5/2/	*/3	4/10	4/1/	4/24	5/1	5/0	5/15	5/22	5/25	0/5	0/12	0/15	0/2
		WWDC-FM	Rock	DC101.1	2/27 - 6/25/17																			-
	.0	WASH-FM	AC	97.1	2/27 - 6/25/17			<u> </u>																-
	Radio	WIHT-FM	Top 40	99.5	2/27 - 6/25/17	-		<u> </u>																-
	-	WTOP-FM	News Talk	103.5FM	2/27 - 6/25/17														<u> </u>					-
		WBAL-AM/Baltimore	News/Talk	1090 AM	2/27 - 6/25/17			<u> </u>											<u> </u>					-
		Google	Text/Banner Ads	1050 AM	2/27 - 6/25/17														<u> </u>					-
GRH	Digital	iHeart	Mobile banner ads		2/27 - 6/25/17			<u> </u>																-
5	Dig	Youtube	:15/:30s Ads		2/27 - 6/25/17														<u> </u>					-
	Online / I	WTOP.com	Web/Mobile/Tablet		2/27 - 6/25/17			-																
	들	Youtube/Baltimore	:15/:30s Ads		2/27 - 6/25/17																			
	ō																							
		Facebook	FB Ads		2/27 - 6/25/17																			
	Social Media	Facebook/Baltimore	FB Ads		2/27 - 6/25/17																			
	S Z	racebooky balantore	10703		2/2/ 0/25/1/																			
		WLZL-FM	Spanish	107.9	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	Radio	WFRE-FM	Country	99.9	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
		WTOP-FM	News Talk	103.5FM	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
		WPGC-FM	Urban AC	95.5	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	<b>"</b>	ESPN	Sports	980	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
		WAMU	News Talk	88.5	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
are		WAMU/Podcast	News Talk		2/20 - 6/30/17																			
-S	- 0																							
Rideshare	Social Media	Facebook			2/20 - 6/30/17																			
12	ŏΣ																							
	~	Comcast SportsNet	Sports		2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	ita le	Google	Text Ads		2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	Online / Digital	WTOP.com	Web/Mobile/Tablet	audio & display	2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	Ю	Fashion Centre	Ads + Table Tents		2/20 - 6/30/17																			
	0																							
Lege	nd																							
		dio Coverage																						
Guaranteed R	ide Home O	nline Coverage																						
Guarenteed R	ide Home Si	cial Media Coverage																						
Rideshare Rad	dio Coverage																							
Rideshare Soc																								
Rideshare Onl																								
Rideshare Out	t of Home C	verage																						

### Note: BTWD weeks are 5/1, 5/8, and 5/15/17.

GRH Baltimore radio can run any weeks, but social media and YouTube must run on different weeks than GRH, RS, and 'Pool Rewards.

	Commuter Connections FY2017 Spring Umbrella																								
			Media Outlet	Format	Dial Position	Campaign to Run	2/20	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27	4/3	4/10	4/17	4/24	5/1	5/8	5/15	5/22	5/29	6/5	6/12	6/19	6/26
		ledia	Facebook			2/20 - 3/31/2017																			
arde	5	cial N	LinkedIn			2/20 - 3/31/2017																			
		S																							
0		Print Ads	Washington Post			2/20 - 3/31/2017																			
3	5 1																								$\square$
d d	2	nline / (gital	Real Estate Websites	Banner Ads		2/20 2/21/2017																			+
		Dig	Real Estate Websites	Banner Ads		2/20 - 3/31/2017																			+
	Legend				1	1																			
'Pool R	ewards	Social Medi	a Coverage																						
Pool O	nline Co	verage																							
Pool Pr	int Ad C	Coverage																							

Appendix D FY2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Paid Media Spend

