Item #3



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

FY22 First Half Marketing Campaign Summary Final Report

Regional TDM Marketing Group

March 15, 2022

FY22 First Half Marketing Campaign Summary

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Executive Summary

Overview

This document summarizes Commuter Connections' FY22 marketing activity occurring between July and December 2021. Commuter Connections resumed a full-scale Regional TDM Recovery Marketing Campaign in summer 2021, for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Special events planning and promotion during the first half of FY22 included Car Free Day in September 2021, the Bike to Work Day 2022 sponsorship drive which began in October 2021, and the Employer Recognition Awards 2022 call for nominations which kicked off in December 2021.

COVID

The pandemic continued to have widespread impact on the country and the region through the end of calendar year 2021 as a vast number of "non-essential" employees were still working on a remote basis. Even with free and accessible vaccine availability, there have been more U.S. deaths attributed to the pandemic in 2021 than in 2020.

Another problem which immerged was that of waning protection from the vaccination, as some who were fully vaccinated began contracting COVID after a period of time. Based on the discovery that the vaccination does not provide long lasting protection, the CDC encouraged booster shots, particularly to combat the Omicron variant, which came on strong in late 2021.

A federal mandate made by executive order required vaccinations for companies with 100 or more employees. The mandate was challenged in the federal court system and will likely be taken up by the U.S. Supreme Court in January 2022. Regardless, federal employees including the military, and federal contractors are required to be vaccinated. Masks continued to be required on public transit through the duration of calendar year 2021.

Regional TDM Recovery Campaign

A Regional TDM Recovery Campaign began in July 2021, with the thrust occurring during the month of August 2021. A portion of the campaign also ran into the first week of September 2021. The campaign's "Look Again" message aimed to help transition commuters back to using transit and ridesharing in a safe and healthy manner. The campaign reached both traditional audiences and those in Equity Emphasis Areas. The total cost of the Regional Recovery Campaign media buy was approximately \$397,900.

Car Free Day

A marketing campaign promoted the Car Free Day event held on September 22, 2021. Pledges reached nearly 3,000 which was a decrease from the 2020 event, due to the continued impact of the pandemic on the region. Compared to 2020 when most were teleworking, in 2021 more workers were back at the office and may have been hesitant to use shared modes of transportation, particularly buses. The total cost of the Car Free Day media buy budget was approximately \$45,000.

Employer Recognition Awards

To kick off the call for nominations, a nomination brochure and form were developed and mailed to employers in early December 2021.

Introduction

The following reports were assessed as part of the planning process to help shape creative approaches and media selection during the first half of FY22. These survey reports indicate respondents' attitudes, preferences, behaviors, and patterns about commuting and Commuter Connections programs, services, and events. Many of the surveys collection also gathered demographic data to help understand the age, income, gender, and racial/ethnic backgrounds of the region's citizens and Commuter Connections members.

- 2021 Commuter Connections Applicant Database Annual Placement Survey Report
- 2020 Commuter Connections TDM Analysis Report (FY18–FY20)
- 2019 Commuter Connections State of the Commute Survey Report
- 2019 Commuter Connections Guaranteed Ride Home Applicant Survey Report for the Washington, DC Region
- 2019 Commuter Connections Guaranteed Ride Home Applicant Survey Report for the Baltimore Region
- 2019 Commuter Connections Bike to Work Survey Analysis Report

The first half of FY22 included the following activities:

- Regional Recovery Campaign implementation
- Car Free Day 2021 promotion and event
- Employer Recognition Awards 2022 nomination brochure development
- Regional TDM Marketing Group meetings (September and December 2021)
- Bike to Work Day 2022 sponsorship drive and development of creative concepts
- Summer and fall employer newsletters

About Commuter Connections

Commuter Connections is a network of transportation organizations coordinated at a regional level through the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Commuter Connections offers free commuter services to workers in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Major services include ridematching for carpools and vanpools, and administration of the Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program in the Washington, DC and Baltimore regions. Other key elements include TDM evaluation, incentive programs, and special events. Through its Employer Outreach Representatives, Commuter Connections also assists employers with guidance on establishing and enhancing commuter programs, including telework and offering free collateral materials.

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

- Arlington County Commuter Services
- Bethesda Transportation Solutions
- City of Alexandria GO Alex
- City of Fairfax
- District Department of Transportation
- Dulles Area Transportation Association
- Enterprise Rideshare
- Fairfax Connector
- Fairfax County Commuter Services
- GW Ride Connect
- Loudoun County Commuter 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 Virginia Transportation
 Commission
- OmniRide (PRTC)
- Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation
- Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
- TransIT Services of Frederick County
- Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
- Tysons Partnership Transportation Council
- U.S. General Services Administration
- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
- Virginia Department of Transportation
- Virginia Railway Express
- Washington Area Bicyclist Association
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Brand Character

Commuter Connections delivers a brand promise as the preeminent and trusted regional network of transportation organizations in the Washington, DC region, providing free commuting services and solutions for more than 45 years. Through Commuter Connections' online Ridematching system, commuters are given free direct access to others who are looking to carpool and vanpool, along with access to routes and other alternative mode options such as transit, bicycling, and teleworking. Sharing a ride to work positively affects air quality and mobility for the region.

A SMARTER WAY TO WORK



Regional Recovery Campaign

The main thrust of the FY22 Regional Recovery Campaign was deployed during the month of August 2021, although a small portion was released in late June 2021 and some components also ran through the first week of September 2021. The campaign's message of "Look Again" provided reassurance and helped transition commuters back to using non-SOV methods of travel in a safe and healthy manner. The objective was to prevent traffic congestion from exceeding pre-pandemic levels, due to avoidance of public transit and ridesharing.

The campaign reached Commuter Connections' general target audience and also those in Equity Emphasis Areas. Equity Emphasis Areas are small geographic areas with concentrations of lowincome or minority populations, or both, compared to the regional average. A noteworthy percentage of Equity Emphasis Area households are transit dependent.

Recovery Campaign Equity Emphasis Area			
Budget	Gross Cost	COG Cost	Impressions
Pandora	\$29,768.46	\$25,303.19	893,041
Spotify	\$79,278.00	\$67,385.00	4,595,197
WTOP	\$41,455.00	\$35,236.75	2,784,100
El Zol	\$17,285.00	\$14,692.25	636,300
WPGC	\$24,860.00	\$21,131.00	819,800
WHUR	\$24,025.00	\$20,421.25	1,934,200
MARC	\$15,112.00	\$12,845.00	197,316
VRE	\$15,411,76	\$13,100.00	157,853
NBC (Streaming)	\$59,635.00	\$50,689.76	616,352
YouTube	\$736.00	\$736.00	59,548
Instagram	\$410.00	\$410.00	61,316
PoPville	\$705.00	\$600.00	3,231
Totals	\$308,681.22	\$262,550.20	12,758,254

The total cost of the Regional Recovery Campaign media buy was approximately \$397,900.

Recovery Campaign General Audience Budget	Gross Cost	COG Cost	Actual Impressions
Pandora	\$60,000.00	\$51,000.00	3,745,406
Spotify	\$32,942.00	\$27,999.99	1,469,070
NBC4 (Broadcast)	\$37,410.00	\$31,798.50	2,419,000
Audacy Newsletter	\$2,941.00	\$2,499.85	67,000
WTOP	\$24,396.00	\$20,736.60	1,744,700
YouTube	\$736.00	\$736.00	69,217
Instagram	\$590.00	\$590.00	94,857
Totals	\$159,015.00	\$135,360.94	9,609,250

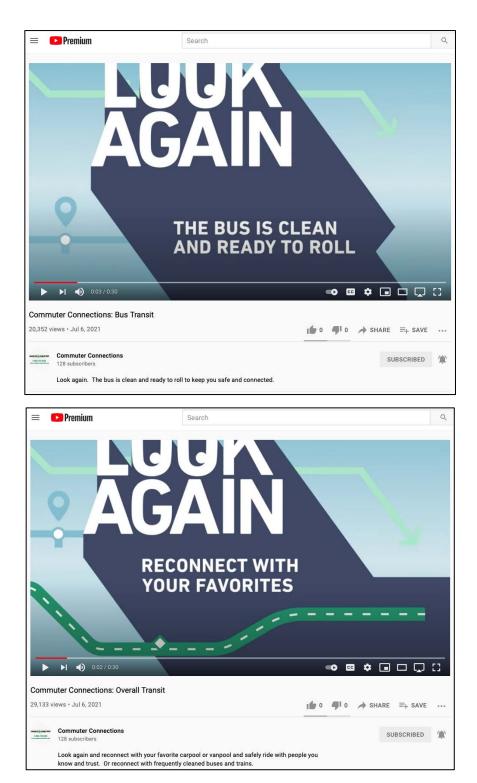
Added Value Summary

Below is a summary of the added value placements that were negotiated with various media partners.

Media Partner	Added Value	Estimated Value
NBC4	30 spots (:30 length)	\$18,525
Pandora	Banners 300x250	\$36,000
Spotify	Banners 640x640	\$28,000
WTOP	47 spots (:30 length)	\$15,935
WLZL	60 spots (:30 length)	\$4,860
WHUR	30 spots (:30 length)	\$5,625
WPGC	60 spots (:30 length)	\$6,000
Audacy	Social media campaign	\$15,000
Totals		\$129,945

YouTube Videos

Two :30-second animated videos were produced for the Regional Recovery campaign and ran as paid advertising on YouTube. One of the videos was bus-focused and the other was a catchall video touching on carpooling, bus, and train.



Social Media

A series of "Look Again" social media posts were created for the Regional Recovery Campaign and placed onto Facebook, some of which were animated while others were static images.



Transit Ads - Commuter Rail

Paid ads were placed on MARC and VRE trains and stations to support the Regional Recovery campaign, with a sub headline of "Glad to Have You Safety Back on Board!". The "Look Again" signage promoted Guaranteed Ride Home and included a QR code.



Transit Ads - Bus

Complimentary ad space was donated by four transit agencies from throughout the region. The "Look Again" bus exteriors and shelter ads boasted "The Bus is Clean and Ready to Roll". In total, 121 ads appeared in on Montgomery County Ride On, Prince George's County's The Bus, the Fairfax County Connector, and Prince William County OmniRide.







Military Guides

Each year, Commuter Connections places ads in about a dozen military base guides throughout the region. Artwork was refreshed to coincide with the "Look Again" message as part of the Regional Recovery Campaign. The display ads are credit card-sized format.



Radio

Traditional and internet radio served as the main media components for the Regional Recovery Campaign. Thirty second spots aired for six weeks throughout August and into the first week of September on a mix of station formats including: Pandora and Spotify (internet radio), WHUR (urban adult contemporary radio), WLZL (Hispanic), WPGC (heritage rap, hip-hop & R&B), and WTOP (news/talk).

Scripts

:30 Second Transit Radio Script

Look again—the bus is clean and ready to roll. Your local transit service is working hard to be here for you, to keep you safe and help you stay connected. You've been at work for others and your favorite transit is here for you. Take another look, reconnect and ride with us, safely, whether it's your local bus, Metrorail, commuter bus or train. Learn more at Commuter Connections Dot Org or call 1.800.745.RIDE. That's Commuter Connections Dot Org.

:30 Second Carpool/Vanpool Radio Script

Reconnect with a carpool or vanpool and ride with people you know and trust—safely. By forming a commute circle with your rideshare group, and following current safety guidelines, you can enjoy your favorite way to get to work in a safe manner. For more ways to ride safely to and from work, visit Commuter Connections Dot Org or call 1.800.745.RIDE. That's Commuter Connections Dot Org or 1.800.745.RIDE.



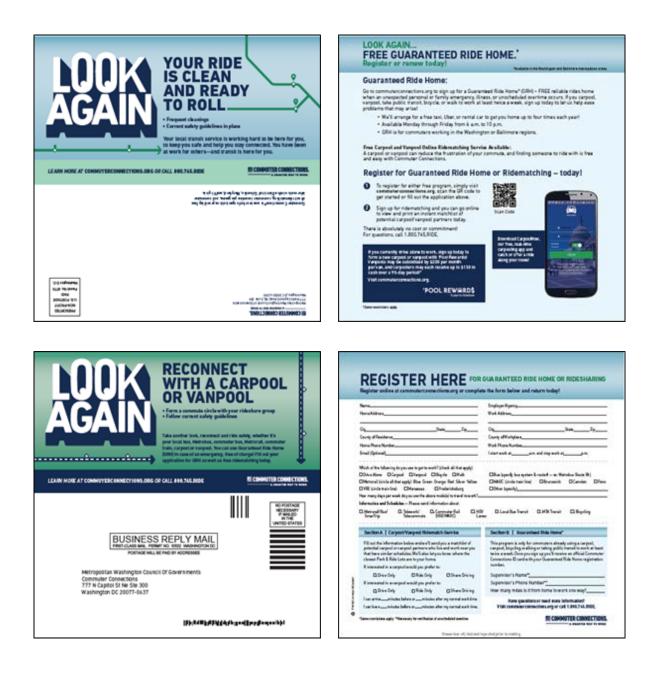
Digital Banner Ads

Digital banner ads were created to accompany Spotify and Pandora audio, and for valued ad media.



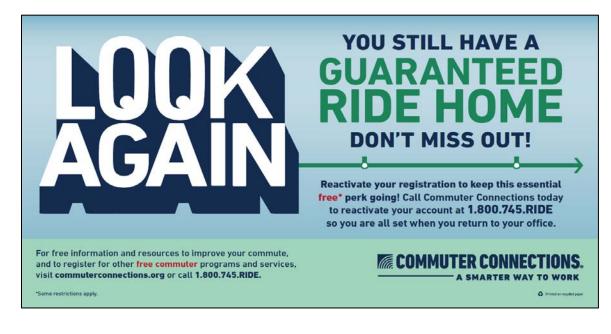
Direct Mailer

A self-mailer was sent to approximately 500,000 households within the region to promote ridematching services and the GRH program. Printing and postage cost for the mailing totaled \$105,084.38. The mailing was sent to a 60/40 split of Equity Emphasis Area households and general audience households.



GRH Renewal Postcard

Postcards were sent to about 400 previous GRH customers who did not re-register for GRH during the pandemic. The 6" x 11" postcards were sent leading up to Labor Day and urged former GRH members not to miss out, so the essential perk would be ready for them when they returned to the workplace. The printing and postage costs for the summer 2021 mailing totaled \$532.20.

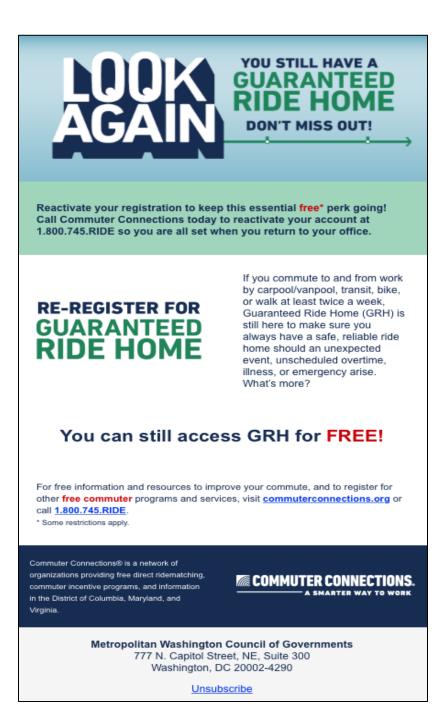




PRESORTED NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 9770 Washington D.C.

GRH Re-register HTML Email

An HTML email was sent to approximately 12,500 past GRH members who failed to re-register.



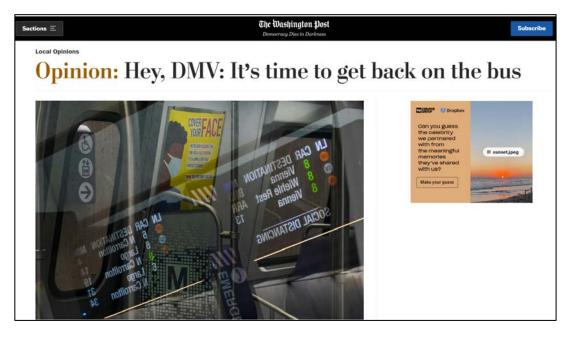
PoPville Article

A sponsored article was placed on the popular DC blog, PoPville in August, touting the safe return of ridesharing and transit.



Earned Media

The Recovery Campaign's earned media efforts garnered significant attention, including the authoring and publication of Commuter Connections Director Nicholas Ramfos' call-to-action Op-Ed in the print and digital editions of the Washington Post.



By Nicholas Ramfos July 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. EDT

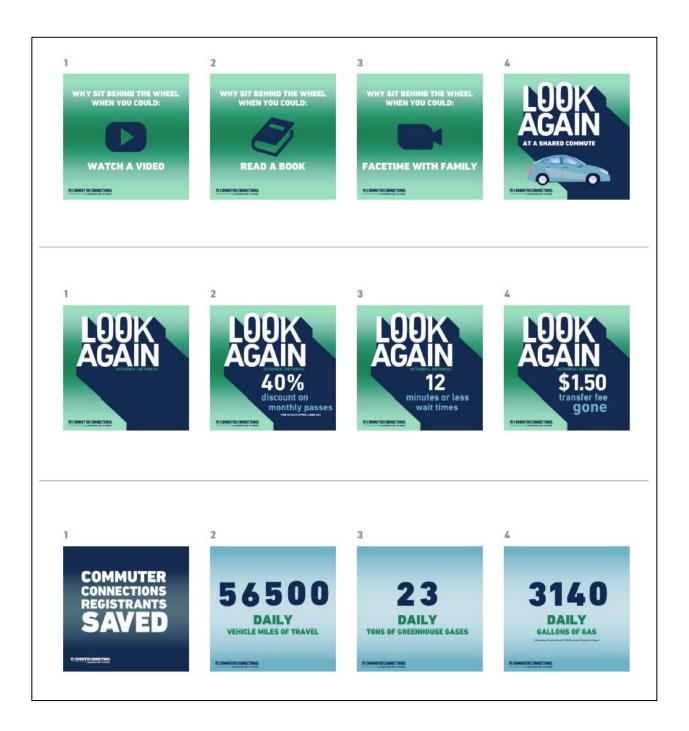
Nicholas Ramfos is director of Commuter Connections, a regional network of transportation organizations coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

I remember the morning of April 19 as if it were yesterday. The somewhat sunny weather, the top half of people's faces — all crystal clear in my head...

For the complete article, visit: www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2021/07/16/dmv-public-transit-work-commute/

Infographics

A series of three animated infographics were placed on Instagram to support carpooling and transit ridership.



Car Free Day 2021

Car Free Day was celebrated on September 22, 2021. The event promoted alternative travel modes for both commute and non-commute trips, by encouraging commuters and the general public to take the pledge to use car free or car-lite transportation. The total number of 2021 Car Free Day pledges reached 2,993.



Media Objectives

Car Free Day challenged drivers to leave their cars home for the day and go car free or car-lite. The campaign promoted the use of alternative modes of transportation such as taking transit, carpooling, vanpooling, bicycling, scootering and walking in a safe and healthy manner. In addition, participating by teleworking was also included. The objectives were to encourage workers, residents, and students to take the Car Free Day pledge to reduce traffic congestion and auto emissions. The campaign also looked to engage employers, area universities and the general public.

The Car Free Day media buy consisted of radio, text messaging, posters, YouTube, key influencer blog, and digital banner ads. Other efforts to promote Car Free Day included social media, earned media, and complimentary transit ads.

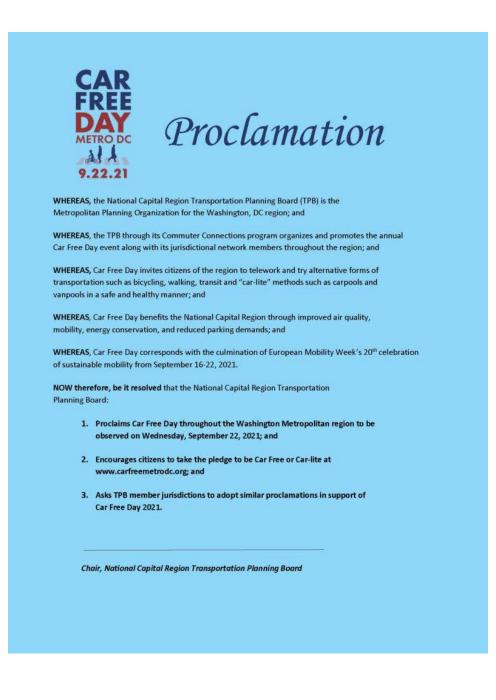
Car Free Day Media Spending	Gross Dollars	COG Net Cost	Actual Impressions
Spotify	\$10,588.50	\$9.000.00	613,667
YouTube	\$750.00	\$750.00	77,763
WTOP	\$26,095.00	\$22,937.25	534,463
WPGC	\$5,895.00	\$5,010.75	215,000
WHUR	\$5,950.00	\$5,057.50	595,500
El Tiempo Latino	\$1,412.00	\$1,200.00	46,170
PoPville	\$705.00	\$600.00	2,777
Text Messages	\$471.00	\$400.00	5,090
Totals	\$51,866.50	\$44,955.50	2,090,430

Value Add

A total of approximately \$20,000 in value add was negotiated for Car Free Day.

Proclamation

The Car Free Day 2021 Proclamation was signed by DC Councilmember and National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TBP) Chair, Charles Allen at a virtual TPB meeting held by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The Proclamation recognized September 22, 2021 as Car Free Day throughout the Washington, DC metropolitan region.



Car Free Day Poster

The poster imagery from the previous year's event was modified with more emphasis given to transit and ridesharing modes due to the anticipated post-pandemic return to the workplace in fall 2021. The poster was distributed to employers and stakeholders throughout the region.



Radio

New radio spots were developed for Car Free Day 2021 and aired on three radio stations: WPGC (95.5), WHUR (96.3), and WTOP (103.5).



Radio Scripts

"Car Free Day 2021" :30 seconds

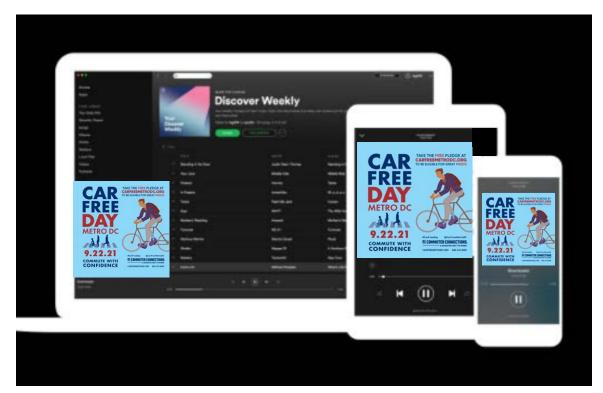
Commute with Confidence on Car Free Day! Use transit, rideshare, bike, walk, scooter, or telework on Wednesday, September 22nd. Take the free pledge at Car Free Metro D-C Dot Org for special promotions and free raffle entry for great prizes, even if you're already car free or car-lite. And remember to use safe and healthy practices as part of your trip. Take the free pledge today! Visit Car Free Metro D-C Dot Org.

"Car Free Day 2021" :10 seconds

Commute with Confidence on Car Free Day! Use transit, rideshare, bike, walk, scooter, or telework on Wednesday, September 22nd. Take the free online pledge at Car Free Metro D-C.

Spotify

A :30-second radio spot ran on internet radio station, Spotify, and was accompanied by a companion image.



Banner Ads

Digital banner ads were placed on www.ElTiempoLatino.com, the Spanish-language website of the weekly newspaper published in Washington, D.C.







gratispara poder ganar grandes premios, incluso si no tienes carro o lo usas poco.

#CarFreeDay @CarFreeMetroDC COMMUTER CONNECTIONS. A SMARTER WAY TO WORK CARFREEMETRODC.ORG 800.745.RIDE

YouTube Video

A :30 second animated video was produced, and advertising was purchased on YouTube to promote the Car Free Day event over a four-week period, leading up to September 22, 2021. A link to the YouTube video was made available on the Car Free Day website.



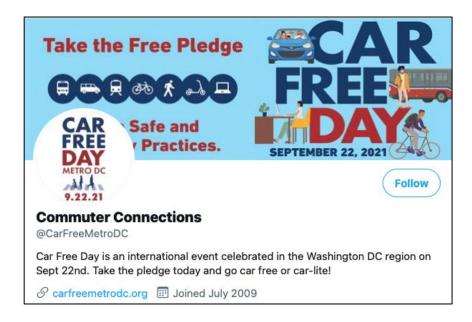
Car Free Day Social Media

Social Media was used to keep friends and followers up to date on activities and sponsor donated prizes for the Car Free Day raffle. Car Free Day is "liked" by 4,693 Facebook fans and has 738 followers on Twitter.

Facebook



Twitter



Facebook Social Media Posts

A series of images featuring each travel mode was developed for use on social media. A different image was posted along with promotional copy, every several days during the month of September, leading up to Car Free Day.



Email Blast

An email blast was sent to 44,000 participants from the past three year's Car Free Day and Bike to Work Day events.



Native Article

A paid sponsored article on PoPville, a popular local blog chronicling D.C. area neighborhood happenings, was utilized to help reach local audiences. PoPville sitewide traffic yielded 32,200 pageviews on the day the article was first posted.



Text Messages

When participants took the Car Free Day pledge at carfreemetrodc.org, they could opt-in to receive text messages about the event. Three messages were sent throughout the campaign. The first was to 2020 registrants thanking them for participating last year and prompting them to take the pledge again in 2021. The second message was sent to 2021 registrants encouraging them to ask co-workers, family, and friends to take the pledge. The final last-chance message, sent two days before the event, encouraged those who took the pledge in 2020, but still haven't yet done so this year, to take the pledge. Over 5,000 messages were sent during this campaign, and no person received more than two text messages.

September 1, 2021 - Message #1:

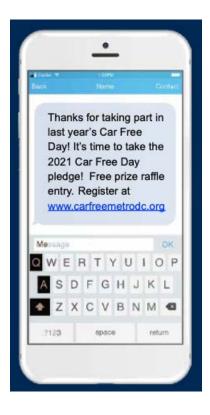
Thanks for taking part in last year's Car Free Day! It's time to take the 2021 Car Free Day pledge! Free prize raffle entry. Register at www.carfreemetrodc.org.

September 13, 2021 - Message #2:

Thanks for taking the 2021 Car Free Day pledge! Please ask your coworkers, family and friends to take the free pledge too, at www.carfreemetrodc.org.

September 20, 2021 - Message #3:

Wed Sept 22 is Car Free Day! Last chance to take the free pledge to get FREE promotions and raffle entry for great prizes! www.carfreemetrodc.org



Transit Signage

Complimentary ad space was donated by the following transit partners. Bus exteriors, interiors, and shelters promoted Car Free Day.

- Arlington Interior Bus Cards
- Prince George's County Bus Shelters (including digital)
- Fairfax County Connector Bus Tails
- Metrobus Interior Bus Cards
- Montgomery County Bus Exteriors



Earned Media

The Car Free Day earned media efforts included calendar listings, press releases, media pitches, and promotional tool kits. The tool kits were sent to universities to help them promote Car Free Day, and to in-kind sponsors to help them publicize their support of the event. Media placements of note included WJLA-TV, WTOP radio, and Greater Greater Washington. A total of 17 placements and 21 calendar listings were generated.

- Press Releases:
 - 8/4/2021: Take Your Foot off the Gas and Take the Free Pledge: Car Free Day 2021 Registration Open!
 - o 9/17/2021: Last Chance to Take the Pledge for Car Free Day

Prizes

Each event registrant who took the pledge to go car free or car-lite received a \$30 Nift Gift credit to use with local participating businesses in the DC area. Registrants were also entered into a raffle for a chance to win sponsor donated prizes. In-kind sponsors received a logo/link on the Car Free Day website and mentions on social media posts. New sponsors this year included Caboose Tavern Brewery and Georgetown Running Company.

College Campus Challenge

Colleges were provided with a digital toolkit to promote the Car Free Day event. A special seal was added to the PDF version of the poster and forwarded to university contacts. The college with the greatest number of pledges in 2021 was the University of Maryland. Their win was promoted on Car Free Day Facebook and Twitter, and a plaque was sent to the university's Transportation Services staff to commemorate the achievement.



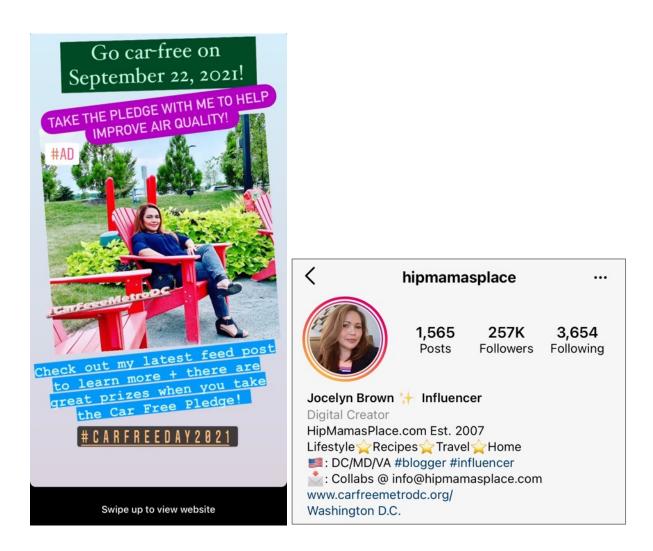




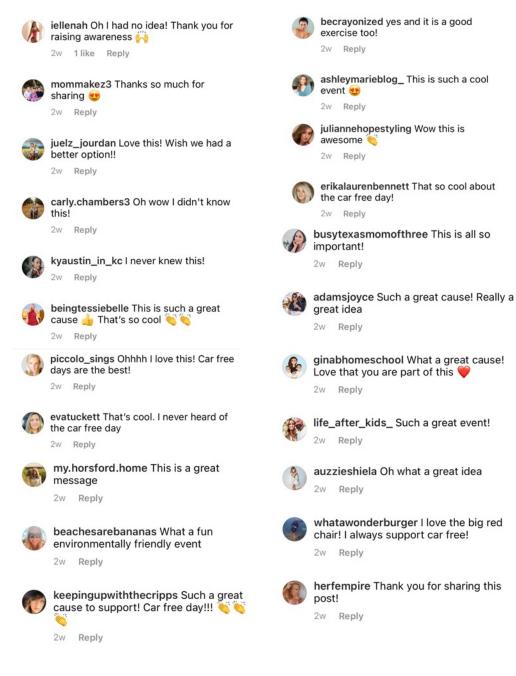
Clean Air Partners

Clean Air Partners serves the metropolitan Baltimore-Washington region by empowering individuals and organizations to take simple actions to reduce pollution and protect public health. Clean Air Partners leveraged a network of local "digital ambassadors" (influencers) to build engagement around Car Free Day 2021. Below is just one of ten ambassador posts and a sample of follower comments. The comments provide anecdotal indications that the social media campaign increased awareness of Car Free Day and visits to the Car Free Day website to take the pledge.

Hip Mama's Place - Story:



Hip Mama's Place – Follower Comments:



Bike to Work Day

Commuter Connections began its annual sponsorship drive in October 2021 for the May 2022 Bike to Work Day event. Outreach was being made to past and prospective sponsors. The sponsorship drive will remain open through January 31, 2021.

2022	Please Ret	urn by January	31, 2022
Please check one of the following	Sponsor Levels:	Cash	In-Kind
GOLD SPONSOR LEVEL Mentioned as sponsor on over 400 F (traditional radio and/or equivalent or Social Media, plus all Silver and Bror	Radio ads nline media impressio	ons),	
SILVER SPONSOR LEVEL Logo on 20,000 T-shirts, Press Relea Bronze level items	\$4,500 ase, plus		
BRONZE SPONSOR LEVEL Logo on Website and 90,000 Posters If in-kind donation, please describ			
pit stop locations may require a separate fee for Name:	_		
Organization:			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
e-mail:			
Signature			
Please make check payable to: Metropolita Capitol Street, Suite 300, Washington, DC 2		anklin. Send this fo	rm and logo t

Employer Recognition Awards

The Employer Recognition Awards program recognizes employers who initiate outstanding worksite commute benefits and/or telework programs to assist their employees. FY22 marks the 25th anniversary of Commuter Connections' highly esteemed event. Self-mailers with a loose application form were mailed in late November to more than 3,200 level 3 & 4 employee transportation coordinators, level 3 & 4 executive level contacts, and Chambers of Commerce throughout the region. The printing and postage cost for the mailing totaled \$3,180. PDFs of the materials were also made available online.





Nomination Brochure



About the organizations

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Council of Governments The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an association of 24 local governments in the Diatrict of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, COG's National Capital Region Transportation Ind coordinating regional transportation og.org for m

Commuter Connections Commuter Connections Aprogram of the Neticial Capital Region Transportation Planning Band, Commuter Connections is a regionive transportation information, outrach, and service matheol dedicated to assign the workday commute and reducing the number of single-cognative values. Free Information, insurice programs, reducing the single-term is invalidable for both employers and commuters. Commuter Connections is funded by the District, Maryland, Virginia, and U.S. Departments of Transportation, with state and federal transportation funds.

Please visit commuterconnections.org or call 800.745.7433 for more info.



A bit about last year's winners:

MARKETING

GEICO Chevy Chase, MD

Certy clears not BCID is one of the fastest-growing auto insurers, holding more than 18 million policies nationwide and covering over 28 million autos GBIO employs more than 3.100 in the region and matches employees contributions to Metro's SmartBeerific, so 1510 per month. The company is a abort walk from the Metroral station and encourages community by biction GBIO has provided bias education clicks, lockers, and abovers.

Texes, boots, initia nomena.
GEICD promotesis is commutate benefits program to employees through new hire orientations, b-annual benefits fars, intrance, emails, and brochness with Mendgemeny County Commutate Versite New production and transition of the county Commutate Versite New production and transition of the toward or the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to motive the second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second second to the second second second second second second second second second to the second secon

GEICO.

INCENTIVES NIAID Rockville, MD

The National Institution of Allergy and Infectious Disease (MAUD) is part of the National Institutes of Health and Health and State of the National Institutes of Health and Health NAUD offers a variety of communic instantions, Including carpool and vanpool garking, electric whicle charging stations, accure bile parting, a bile trail, and showers and lockers. It offers anny show that the data output of the state of the state of the state that encourage employees to stay on campus throughout the workfully.

unworkawy. O Itis 4,500 employees in the region, 40 percent telework up to eight days a month, supported by NAID's flexible scheduling NAID within walking distance to a Metroral tation and 27 percent of employees receive a transportation subsidily up to the federa limit. As a result of its various commuter benefits and amenifies. NAID has saved an average of 11/200.000 employee which emilies and an estimated 524,000 gallons of gasoline annually.



Easing the way for what's to follow

Ridesharing, commuting by public transportation, bicycling, walking, or teleworking contribute to less traveled roads. That often means smoother, easier, and faster commutes, and a reduction in harmful vehicle emissions.

Opening new doors... and getting in

Commuter Connections encourages area businesses and commuters to discover innovative ways to reduce the number of single-occupant vehicles on the road. angle-occupant venices on the road, The Commuter Connections: Employer Recognition Awards acknowledges employers who initiate or improve programs encouraging commuting alternatives. Companies who impleme these programs and services make a difference to their organization, employees, local community, and the region.

CONNECTIONS

Awards are given in the following categories:

INCENTIVES Offering a host of commuter incentive to encourage and reward employees for using alternative means of transportation to and from work.

MARKETING Educating about and championing for the use of altornative transportation options by frequently promoting available commuter programs to employees in creative and effective ways.

T E L E W O R K Providing a policy framework and technology to allow employees to seamlessly work from home. or at a local telework or co-working center, one or more days per week.



2022 Employer Recognition Awards

GUARANTEED RIDE HOME Promoting and/or supplementing Commuter Connections' free emergency risk home program for employees during unexpected personal or family emergencies/illnesses, or unscheduled overtime PARKING STRATEGIES Offering reduced parking fees and/or preferred parking spaces for carpools and vanpools.

Offering discount memberships to nearby gyms, bikesharing, and/or carsharing services.

AIR ALERTS Receiving free e-mail Alerts from Clean Air Partners about forecasted unhealthy Code Orangel Red days to encourage employees to inprore air quality by teleworking, bicycling, walking, ridesharing, or taking transit.

Providing bike racks, Fixit stations, lockers, and/or shower facilities for bicyclists and walkers. Offering a direct monthly bicycle benefit for purchases, improvement, repair, or storage. CLEAN ENERGY VEHICLES Providing electric car charging stations, or a company fleet of clean energy vehicles or hybrids.

RIDESHARING Promoting Commuter Connections' free Ridematching services for carpools and vanpools, or providing your own on-site employee ridematching service.

Has your organization made a difference in any of the following areas? If so, apply now.

BICYCLING AND WALKING

DISCOUNTED MEMBERSHIPS

2022 WINNER

EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARDS

TELEWORKING

Providing management support, training, and technology to enable employees to work from home, a remote office, or co-working space, either on a part-time, full-time, or occasional basis. TRANSIT AND VANPOOLS Offering monthly transit and vanpool pre-tax or direct benefits, through SmartBenefits[®] Providing shuttle services to and from the workplace and transit stations.

WORK SCHEDULE ALTERNATIVES Offering flexible or staggered start and end times, or compressed work week schedules, such as 4 days/40 hours, or 9 days/80 hours

TELEWORK ASHA Rockville, MD

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is a national organization with 218,000 members and affiliates made up of pathologists, actiologists, actioniza, and students. Since 2004, ASHA has grown its telework program from one of every six employees to one of every two employees teleworking up to 66 percent of their total workdays.

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Nomination Form

Nomination Form		CONNECTIONS.	Nomination Form
What is the total number of program participants in the	wasnington metropolitan area?		
At how many work sites?	Marking		 Affected your awareness or
low many people do you employ in the Washington me	ropolitan area?		Reduced gasoline consump
. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS			vehicle miles reduced, plea
Non-profit organization Othe	Please specify		Describe and quantify the be • Reduced traffic congestion
	State or Federal government		D. Environmental Impacts
Please mark one of the choices below that best describ			
3. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION			 Reduced your organization Provided other dividends for
Marketing Incer	tives Telework		 Helped reduce employee or
s there a secondary category you would like to apply fo			Describe how the program h
			C. Economic and Financial B
Marketing Incer			 Contributed to better empl
Which Award Category below best describes the focus	f your program? (See brochure or website for descri	ntion of categories)	 Helped reduce employee c
AWARD CATEGORY			 Increased your organizatio
			 Describe how the program h Improved employee morali
Name, email, and phone of Person Submitting Nominat	on Form (if different from above)		B. Employer and Employee
Varie of Program (if applicable)	co sciore sullidary 1, 20217		
:mail Date Program Began (must have been initiated or impr			 Is your telework program in
Phone	Website		How many employees tele What type of training and/
Program Contact	l itle		Are flextime or compresse
	State		 Do you offer bikesharing d
Address		T	 Do you have bike racks, loc
			 Do you provide shuttle service
I. CONTACT INFORMATION			 If transit fare is subsidized
CONTACT INFORMATION			 Is transit fare subsidized a
lescribed in question #6. Supplemental materials may be sub arrative.	nitted in addition to, but not in place of the nomination form	questions and program summary	 Is transit fare offered to en
forminations can be submitted online or by using this form, an			 If parking is provided, is it
nstructions			 How are the various program
-			What type of commuter be
webmaster@commuterconnections.org commuterconnections.org			What were the programs What have the results been
Tel: 202.962.3792			What was the situation of the situa
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002-4290			 A. Description of Program What was the situation or of
Commuter Connections Douglas Franklin			
Completed applications should be sent to:			Questions and points to addr
Teadure The application deadline is January 31, 2022.			Provide a clear, concise desc new initiatives have taken pla
is a year or more of a program in place provides a better Deadline	pportunity to demonstrate successful, sustainable, and o	uantifiable impacts.	Please attach a 1-3 page wri (A, B, C, D) in a separate para
Employers in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland commute or telework program may apply for these award			6. PROGRAM SUMM
Eligibility			.agree.
TEARS			Signed
22 AWARDS			I acknowledge that I am auth participate in the awards cer
RECOGNITION			

- г

o submit this nomination form on behalf of my organization and that, if selected as a winner, my organization will and video, and that Commuter Connections will promote my organization's initiatives online and in print. _____Title_____

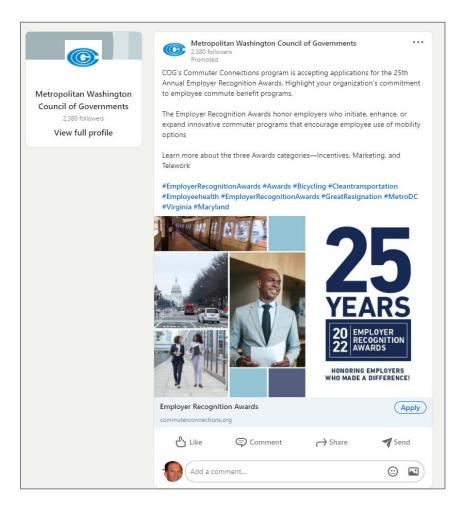
NARRATIVE mmary about your program, answering and elaborating on as many questions below that apply. Address each part and provide measurable results of the program, wherever possible. of your program's activities. If you are a previous Commuter Connections award winner, please make clear what I/or what has been done differently to encourage substantial increases in employee participation since last winning. arrative if applicable on that led to the croation of your program? and low has it been successful in meeting its guals? sametic previous years? sametic within your workin? services, information, or amenicies are offered to employees and how many take advantage of each? services, information, or amenicies are offered to employees and how many take advantage of each? set on a pro-tak basis? di-dpocket expense by your organization, paid by employees, or a combination of boh? is the dottar amount provided to employees? with stations, and/or shower facilities? Sr >? weeks offered? I hav often do they do so? I lities are offered to management and to employees who telework? I or do you have a formal telework policy? uctivity, absenteeism. Iity to attract and retain qualified employees. ing times and stress. ork-life demands/balance. ng expenses. associated with providing commuter parking and/or office space. arganization or employees.

or the community. Discribe how the program has: may which is how been taken of the madd? How many annual vehicle miles have been induced? To calculate commonitorized endowed and plotoministry events where calculate commonitorized endowed and the state of diar quality. Does your organization provide air quality afters to employees and allow televorking on such days?

CONNECTIONS.

LinkedIn

A paid ad was placed on LinkedIn to help generate nominations from Washington, DC region employers. The ad began on December 23, 2021 and extended into the second half of FY22, running through January 16, 2022. The total purchase was \$2,500.



Email Blast

An email blast was sent to approximately 2,100 employer contacts in early December 2021.



Newsletters

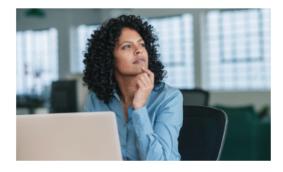
The summer and fall 2021 editions of the Commuter Connections newsletter were issued during the first half of FY22. The six page, 4-color newsletter is produced and distributed quarterly to employers and stakeholders. The newsletters are also available in PDF format on the Commuter Connections website.





EMPLOYER CASE STUDIES

With the holidays upon us, the new year is fast approaching. As you are making that list of personal and work-related resolutions, resolve to blow the dust off that employee commuter plan and review, revise, and re-energize it. Wonder what other Washington, DC, area employers do for their commuters? Take some tips from the Employer Case Studies at-a-glance previews below.



American Institutes for Research

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is a global scientific foundation with employees at five locations within the Washington, DC metropolitan region. When the pandemic hit, AIR decided to move some DC staff to Arlington, VA, sooner rather than later. AIR extended telework to more employees and maintained transit benefits for essential frontline staff.

AIR offers a transit benefit and a bicycle benefit. Preferential parking spaces were planned, line-painted, and promoted to encourage carpooling and vanpooling. AIR also offers flextime to allow employees to alter their start and end times.

AIR cites high workforce retention and morale as key benefits of the program, which has been particularly important during the pandemic.

Capital One Financial Corporation

Capital One Financial Corporation, with its headquarters in Vienna, VA, was among the first big financial firms to introduce comprehensive teleworking to select employees in March 2020.

A full-time telework program for employees was put in place within the main office and was extended to other employees on a rolling basis.

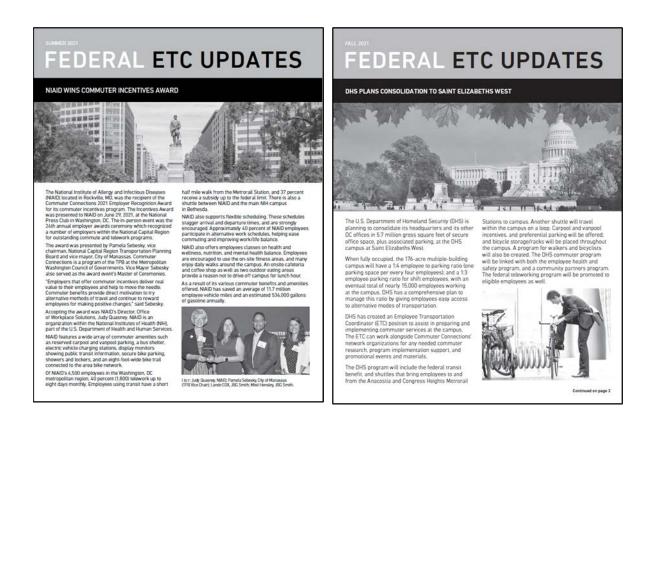
In summer 2021, Capital One introduced a new hybrid telework program, which allows employees to telework on Mondays and Fridays, and be in the office midweek. A company spokesperson said, "The impact of going full-time telework has been seamless and, with the aggressive efforts to streamline, the in-house and virtual workforce has made significant gains and reassured employees during the pandemic. Capital One sees the future as one that can successfully have a hybrid program for all employees."

Lockheed Martin

Defense contractor Lockheed Martin is headquartered in Bethesda, MD, and has multiple office locations throughout the region. The Prince George's County location in Seabrook, MD, provides a transit benefit for employees who need to commute into the office. Telework is also prevalent, with 65 percent of employees currently working remotely. All eligible employees were able to telework during the pandemic. Flextime hours are available for employees and preferential parking is provided at locations where free parking is available. Lockheed Martin operates a shuttle between Metro stations and its various worksites. The company reports that workforce retention was very high during the pandemic.

Federal ETC Updates Newsletter

The summer and fall 2021 editions of the Commuter Connections Federal ETC Updates newsletter were produced during the first half of FY22. The two-page black & white newsletter is produced and distributed quarterly to Federal Employee Transportation Coordinators via GSA. It is also available in PDF format at www.federaletc.org.



FY22 1st Half Marketing Campaign Summary Final Report March 15, 2022

E-Newsletters



Region to Celebrate Car Free Day - September 22

Car Free Day celebrates travel alternatives to driving alone. Employees who take the pledge to be car free or car-lite on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 will be entered into a free prize raffle.



Employer Case Studies

Take some tips from case studies of other Washington, DC area employer commuter programs. This edition covers at a-glance previews for American Institutes for Research, Capital One Financial Corporation, and Lockheed Martin.

More News



Employer Recognition Awards Call for Nominations

Commuter Connections is celebrating its 25th Annual Employer Recognition Awards and is currently seeking nominations from employers who offer outstanding commuter and/or telework programs.

EV Charging Stations at the Workplace

EV charging stations are becoming a more common site within parking facilities at the workplace and beyond. As the price at the pump remains

APPENDIX A

Performance Measures

Web Visits

Month	FY 2021 Web Visits (Sessions)	FY 2022 Web Visits (Sessions)	Year to Year # Change	Year to Year % Change
July	4,113	5,346	1,233	30.0%
August	4,356	9,271	4,915	112.8%
September	3,702	9,103	5,401	145.9%
October	4,180	5,321	1,141	27.3%
November	3,713	4,912	1,199	32.3%
December	2,776	4,871	2,095	75.5%
	22,840	38,824	15,984	70.0%

Phone Calls

Month	FY 2021 Phone Calls	FY 2022 Phone Calls	Year to Year # Change	Year to Year % Change
July	261	203	(58)	-22.2%
August	158	289	131	82.9%
September	143	370	227	158.7%
October	191	232	41	21.5%
November	171	232	61	35.7%
December	151	211	60	39.7%
	1,075	1,537	462	43.0%

GRH Applications

Month	GRH FY 2021 Applications	GRH FY 2022 Applications	Year to Year # Change	Year to Year % Change
July	192	145	-47	-24.5%
August	206	197	-9	-4.4%
September	151	231	80	53.0%
October	212	168	-44	-20.8%
November	163	135	-28	-17.2%
November	103	133	-20	-17.2%
December	127	137	10	7.9%
	1,051	1,013	-38	-3.6%

Rideshare Applications

Month	Rideshare FY 2021 Applications	Rideshare FY 2022 Applications	Year to Year # Change	Year to Year % Change
July	748	542	-206	-27.5%
August	423	1,136	713	168.6%
September	634	844	210	33.1%
October	471	457	-14	-3.0%
November	568	492	-76	-13.4%
December	712	452	-260	-36.5%
December	3,556	3,923	367	10.3%

APPENDIX B

Regional Recovery Campaign Digital Media Results

Program	Media	Amount Spent	Impressions	Interactions (Click Thrus)	Interaction Rate (CTR)	Cost Per Interaction
Recovery Campaign EEA	Pandora	\$25,303	893,041	438	0.05%	\$57.77
Recovery Campaign EEA	Spotify	\$67,385	4,595,197	1,311	0.03%	\$51.40
Recovery Campaign EEA	NBC (Streaming)	\$50,690	616,352	286	0.05%	\$177.24
Recovery Campaign EEA	PoPville	\$600	3,231	416	12.88%	\$1.44
Recovery Campaign EEA	Instagram	\$410	61,316	5,951	9.71%	\$0.07
Recovery Campaign EEA	YouTube	\$736	59,548	33,537	56.32%	\$0.02
		\$145,124	6,228,685	41,939	0.67%	\$3.46

EEA = Equity Emphasis Areas

Program	Media	Amount Spent	Impressions	Interactions (Click Thrus)	Interaction Rate (CTR)	Cost Per Interaction
Recovery						
Campaign General	Pandora	\$51,000	3,745,406	525	0.01%	\$97.14
Recovery						
Campaign		_				
General	Spotify	\$28,000	1,469,070	292	0.02%	\$95.89
Recovery						
Campaign						
General	YouTube	\$736	69,217	45,742	66.08%	\$0.02
Recovery						
Campaign						
General	Instagram	\$590	94,857	9,793	10.32%	\$0.06
		\$80,325	5,378,550	56,352	1.05%	\$1.43

APPENDIX C Car Free Day Digital Media Results

Media	Amount Spent	Impressions	Interactions (Click Thrus)	Interaction Rate (CTR)	Cost Per Interaction
Spotify	\$9,000	613,667	139	0.02%	\$64.75
El Tiempo Latino	\$1,200	46,170	320	0.69%	\$3.75
Popville	\$600	2,777	460	16.56%	\$1.30
YouTube	\$750	77,763	92	0.12%	\$8.15 \$11.42
	Spotify El Tiempo Latino Popville	MediaSpentSpotify\$9,000El Tiempo Latino\$1,200Popville\$600	MediaSpentImpressionsSpotify\$9,000613,667El Tiempo Latino\$1,20046,170Popville\$6002,777YouTube\$75077,763	Media Spent Impressions (Click Thrus) Spotify \$9,000 613,667 139 El Tiempo Latino \$1,200 46,170 320 Popville \$600 2,777 460 YouTube \$750 77,763 92	Media Spent Impressions (Click Thrus) Rate (CTR) Spotify \$9,000 613,667 139 0.02% El Tiempo Latino \$1,200 46,170 320 0.69% Popville \$600 2,777 460 16.56% YouTube \$750 77,763 92 0.12%

APPENDIX D

Car Free Day Earned Media Placements

Media Coverage

Car Free Day 2021 Media Coverage						
Television Inter	views					
WJLA	09/21/2021	Car-Free Day in the District				
Print/Online Co	verage					
08/05/2021	Prince William Living	Take Your Foot off the Gas and Take the Free Pledge: Car Free Day 2021 Registration Opens!				
08/07/2021	InsideNOVA	Registration for Car-Free Day now open				
08/30/2021	Greater Greater Washington	Events: New year, new moniker, new murals				
09/01/2021	Carlyle Council	Car Free Day 2021				
09/15/2021	Patch - Manassas Park, VA	Prince William County Government: Leave The Cars At Home For A Day Transit agency offers prizes for those who go				
09/15/2021	Potomac Local News	car-free, work from home				
09/15/2021	Prince William Living	Car Free Day 2021				
09/16/2021	Popville	Pledge to Go Car Free on September 22 and Become Eligible to Win Prizes				
09/17/2021	Bristow Beat	OmniRide Asks Residents to Pledge to Go Car Free on September 22				
09/17/2021	Montgomery Community Media	Montgomery County Celebrates Car Free Day with Prizes, Gift Cards				
09/20/2021	Montgomery Community Media	What is Car Free Day?				
09/20/2021	Greater Greater Washington	Events: GGwash's Fall Mixer is next week				
09/20/2021	Downtown DC	Car Free Day Celebrates Sustainable Transportation				
09/21/2021	Aws for DP	<u>'Car Free' DC is Wednesday</u>				
09/21/2021	WTOP	<u>'Car free' DC is Wednesday</u>				
		Wednesday is Car Free Day				
09/21/2021 Calendar Listing	Greater Greater Washington					
		Greater Greater Washington				
Arlington, Patch		Greater Greater Washington				
	portation Partners	Leesburg, Patch Washington D.C. Patch				
Baltimore Sun		Washington D.C., Patch				

Bethesda Magazine	Prince William Living Magazine
Capital Gazette	The Wash Cycle
Carroll County Times	Washington City Paper
DC Inno	WDCW TV 50
Frederick News Post	WMAR TV
Georgetown, Patch	WRC TV 4 NBC
Georgetown BID	Washington Plaza
goDCgo	

APPENDIX E

Car Free Day Clean Air Partners Ambassadors Results

Digital Ambassadors Engaged	10
Total Impressions	124,465
Total Engagements	76,997
Likes on Content	53,165
Comments on Content	668
Content Shares	10,202
Content Saves	12,425
Direct Clicks to Website	516
Hashtag Clicks (Instagram Stories Only)	21

APPENDIX F

Employer Awards LinkedIn Results

Program	Media	Amount Spent	Impressions	Interactions (Click Thrus)	Interaction Rate (CTR)	Cost Per Interaction
Employer Awards	LinkedIn	\$2,500	324,911	244	0.08%	\$10.25