

Commuter Connection



A quarterly publication for Downtown Bellevue employers, employees and residents.

Spring 2011

In this Edition

May is Bike Month

Smart Choice Rewards

Pay-Per-Use Bicycle Membership

Commuter Advantage Community Leader

Want to stay connected? Sign up to receive future newsletters at: www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org

Smart Choices: Carpools & Vanpools

Crossing the SR-520 bridge in a carpool, vanpool or vanship just made you a little smarter.

Form a new King County Metro VanPool or VanShare in April and earn the following rewards (in addition to less stress, no tolls and new friends): Drivers, bookkeepers and riders in new Metro vans each receive a \$77 gift card. That can add up to \$231! Contact (206) 684-2043 for more details.



Current vanpoolers and carpools can win too! Track at least 7 commute days each month during March and April on the commute calendar on www.RideshareOnline.com to be entered in the drawing. Each month 77 winners will be chosen to receive a \$77 gift card! New or existing carpool, vanpool, or vanship riders who live or work in King County are eligible to enter. Get started today by visiting www.RideshareOnline.com or calling (206) 625-4500. ☺

Questions about 520 tolling?



Visit www.GoodtoGo520.org



May is Bike Month: Gear Up!

This May, Bellevue employees and residents will have ample opportunities to participate in Bike Month. Choose Your Way Bellevue is pulling out all the stops and bringing more bike love to Bellevue.

Bike to Work Day: On Friday, May 20th, thousands of bicyclists will take to the streets for a rolling party en route to work. Encourage a friend to ride for the first time and stop by a commute station for fuel and fun. Choose Your Way Bellevue is hosting a Commute Station at **Commuter Connection at the Bellevue Transit Center from 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Learn more at www.cbcef.org/btw/btw_day.html.

Free Bicycle Commuting Class: Cascade Bicycle Club is partnering with the City of Bellevue and the Expedia Building to offer a free bike commuting class open to the public. In just one fun and informative hour, an expert instructor from the Cascade Bicycle Club will build your knowledge and confidence so you're ready to roll for Bike Month. Please email hayley@bellevuedowntown.org to RSVP. RSVPing is encouraged, but not required.

Basics of Bike Commuting

Wednesday, April 20th

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Expedia Building, 333 108th Ave NE

Lobby level conference room

Cascade can also bring classes directly to your worksite. Check out their employer resources at www.cbcef.org/bike-commuting-employers.html.

Group Health Commute Challenge: This fun workplace-based team challenge leverages both camaraderie and a little healthy competition to increase biking. By popular demand, Cascade Bicycle Club is rolling out a brand new website this year. With a simpler sign-up, a sleek calendar interface, and some new features, they're betting you'll be pleased. Captains can sign up teams today! Go to www.commutechallenge.cascade.org to learn more and sign-up your team.

What are you waiting for? Grab your bike and get ready. Tell your friends and bring some new riders into the fold. It's going to be a great month for biking. Visit www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/events for additional activities in Bellevue. ☺



Spring into a new commute! Visit **Commuter Connection** at the Bellevue Transit Center.

Flip to page 2 for details!

Commute Advantage Community Leader: Do good, get recognized

When it comes to your commute, does your company provide you with options? Do they offer a vanpool subsidy, transit pass, telework options or on-site bike parking? If so, hats off to them and to you for choosing such a smart place to work. But doing good isn't just about feeling good anymore—with Commute Advantage Community Leader, it's also about getting recognized!

Commute Advantage Community Leader is a free program that highlights Bellevue employers who provide outstanding commute programs to their employees. This initiative, brought to you by the City of Bellevue, King County Metro and TransManage, acknowledges exceptional workplaces in our community that encourage non-drive alone commute modes. By becoming a Community Leader, your company will be joining a list of the best in Bellevue who are pioneering solutions to mitigate congestion, decrease greenhouse gases and contribute to the vitality of our city.

The process is simple—your employer fills out a one-page application which can be requested or downloaded from our website, www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/CACL, and sends it in. A Commute Advantage representative will confirm or help your company achieve eligibility, so that you can be recognized in 2011.

And the recognition is significant! Businesses participating in the Community Leader program will be featured in regional publications, as well as in online sources. Community Leaders will also be featured in a bus advertising campaign throughout the year, designed to let audiences across the region know about your outstanding commute program. In addition, Commute Advantage Community Leaders will receive ongoing support for their new or existing commute programs.

If your company does not currently offer commute alternatives, we can help you get started today! Contact CommuteAdvantage@cywb.org to set up a FREE consultation to help you develop and implement a commute program at your worksite.

For a list of Community Leader program participants, downloadable forms and frequently asked questions, please visit www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/CACL.

For more information, contact Hayley Richardson at (425) 283-1357 or hayley@bellevuedowntown.org.



There's more online!

Be sure to frequent www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org for news and updates about Bellevue's transportation scene, and to join in the conversation on our blog. You can also follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ChooseYourWayBellevue) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/ChooseUrWayBell).

Commuter Connection Corner: What's new this spring

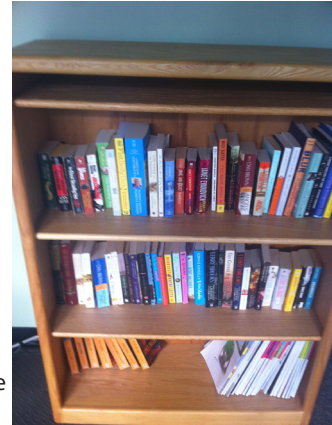
As the weather begins to warm, let Commuter Connection store at the Bellevue Transit Center help you explore your travel options such as biking, walking and transit. This spring, Commuter Connection will offer several new features to make it easier than ever to assist with your non-drive alone commute.

Pay-Per-Use Bicycle Memberships: Commuter Connection, offering secure and covered bike parking for cyclists, now has a new membership feature. In addition to a 6-month membership, cyclists may now purchase a Pay-Per-Use card for \$20 which gives 10 entries to the bike parking facility. This option is perfect for occasional commuters, out of town visitors, and for those trying out a new bike commute. Sign-up online, or in person at Commuter Connection from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Coffee: Enjoy a cup of coffee while your having your commute planned. 25 cent donation requested.

Lending Library: Forgot your book for your commute home? Check out a book or magazine from the new Lending Library.

Many Way to Reach Us! You can now receive commute or bike parking assistance by phone at (425) 452-5273. Or stop by in person at 10850 NE 6th Street in downtown Bellevue during open hours, currently 11 a.m. -1 p.m. weekdays. You may also visit www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/Commuter-Connection-Store or email hayley@bellevuedowntown.org for information.



Commute Resources

Choose Your Way Bellevue
www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org

Commuter Connection Store - Commute Assistance and Bicycle Parking
(425) 452-5273
hayley@bellevuedowntown.org
www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/Commuter-Connection-Store

Commute Advantage and ORCA for Businesses
(425) 453-0644
CommuteAdvantage@bellevuedowntown.org
www.ChooseYourWayBellevue.org/Commute-Advantage
www.orcacard.biz

King County Metro
Rider Information: (206) 553-3000
Bus Time: (206) BUS-TIME
<http://metro.kingcounty.gov>

ORCA Card Customer Service
1 (800) 988-6722
www.orcacard.com



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