



SEPT/OCT 2011

## We took your advice

ETCs said: "We're getting too many emails from too many people about CTR. It's confusing." So, welcome to the first ETC newsletter – one stop shopping for requirements, promotions, vanpool roster, rider alert, events, interesting tidbits...and surprises (coming next month).

Around once a month, we'll send the latest edition. We'll also set up an archive so you can check on previous issues without keeping the email. Please let us know how this more coordinated communication works for you.

Occasionally, we'll still send a separate email regarding requirements and critical transit information – so you don't miss a deadline or the bus! We'll clearly brand the subject line so you know what needs immediate attention.

Thanks for the hard work you do to improve the quality of life in the Thurston Region.

## REQUIRED

### FALL SURVEYS

Worksites that have not surveyed in 2011 must [survey](#) this fall. Within the next few weeks, we'll email the details for your worksite.

### ETC BASIC TRAINING

All ETCs must attend Basic Training one time within six months of their appointment.

**Next Training:** November 2, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please [register](#) by October 19th.

## Win Cash on Your Way to Work!

Fall [Wheel Options](#) is just around the corner – October 16-29. Register your worksite by October 14.

Grand prize \$2,500 Cash!  
Two weekend getaways.  
\$100 gift cards for statewide winners.  
\$25 gift cards for Thurston County participants only (16 given away last spring!)

Click the [Prizes and Sponsors link](#) for the full list.

Your employees just need to use a commute alternative at least twice during the two week promotion and track their trips.

It's Easy! It's Free! [Wheel Options](#) provides posters, graphics, and sample e-mail messages. Register and get your password. We'll link you to the online promotional tools and send informational e-mails to help you get ready.

For more information, contact [Kris Fransen](#) 705-5836

*The Washington State Ridesharing Organization sponsors Wheel Options. This nonprofit organization encourages policy makers, employers and commuters to support the use of transportation alternatives to driving alone. Their goal is to reduce air pollution, traffic congestion, and energy consumption throughout Washington State and the Pacific Northwest.*

A vertical poster for the "Wheel Options" promotion. The text is written in a casual, handwritten style. It lists activities: "drive alone", "chill out", "read", "exercise", "sleep", "knit", "sudoku", and "catch up". Below these is "Win \$2,500" and "on your way to work". At the bottom, there is a black banner with "Oct. 16-29, 2011" in white, and the "wheel options" logo in a stylized font.

# Transit Service Revisions Begin October 2



Effective Sunday, October 2, [Intercity Transit](#) will revise service on 3 local routes and weekday Olympia Express. Pierce Transit will discontinue their Olympia Express Routes 601 and 602 due to service reductions.

## New Transit Guides available now.

### State agencies:

[Consolidated Mail](#) Scroll down to "other" to place your order.

### Others:

[Intercity Transit](#) will deliver your guides unless you have made other arrangements.

Contact [Kris Fransen](#), 705-5836, if you have questions.

## UPDATES

[Rider Alert](#)

[Vanpool Roster](#)

## School Is Back In Session!

Did you know? Over 40,000 K-12 grade students in Thurston County travel to school daily?

A recent state worker survey indicates that nearly 1 out of every 8 employees drives children to school as part of their regular commute.



Now that school is back in session, ETCs can help remind motorists to follow these simple laws to help ensure all students arrive at school safely:

- Observe the posted speed limit. Someone's shortcut is a student's neighborhood, school bus stop, or walking route to school
- Keep your eyes on the road at all times. Using a phone while driving is a distraction—and illegal.
- Yield to pedestrians and cyclists at crosswalks and avoid blocking intersections.

For more information about efforts to promote safe routes to schools in Thurston County, click [here](#).

## Mark Your Calendar... 2011

Wheel Options	October 16-29
Fall CTR Surveys	Oct - Nov
ETC Basic Training	November 2
ETC Networking Session	December 7



## We Can Help: Contact Information

### Thurston Regional Planning Council

[Holly Gilbert](#) or [Paul Brewster](#)

956.7575

[www.thurstoncommutes.com](http://www.thurstoncommutes.com)

- State & Local Requirements & Compliance
- Training & Technical Support
- Surveys & Annual Reports
- Networking & Promotions
- Data

### Washington State Department of Transportation

(for state worksites)

[www.ctr.wa.gov](http://www.ctr.wa.gov)

- Emergency Ride Home (FreeSAFE-Ride):

[Amber Nguyen](#)

705.7877

- Transit Pass (STAR Pass):

[George Blake](#)

705.7922

- Policy:

[Dacia Stricklett](#)

705.7845

**Intercity Transit**[Kris Fransen](#)

705.5836

[www.intercitytransit.com](http://www.intercitytransit.com)

- Public Transportation Services & Support
- Transit Guide
- Vanpool
- Promotions

**RideshareOnline**

Find a Rideshare Partner:

[www.rideshareonline.com](http://www.rideshareonline.com)**Rural & Tribal Transportation**

[www.thurstonRT.org](http://www.thurstonRT.org) or 1.800.650.7846 – serves rural portions of Thurston County and connects to Intercity Transit and Twin Transit in Lewis County