

Commute Trip Reduction

ETC Networking Session Overview - December 2018



Thank you to everyone who joined us at the December 4, 2018, Networking Session. We hope to see you at the next Networking Session on March 19, 2019. In the meantime, here's a summary of what you missed.

Winter Commuting: Weatherproofing your Worksite's CTR Program

Paul Brewster, Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC).

Employee Transportation Coordinators shared the types of hazards and commuting problems that are typical during the winter months in the Pacific Northwest. Paul Brewster reminded ETCs about the importance of communicating with both management and employees about CTR policies and resources that can overcome winter commuting risks. Flextime, telework, SAFE-Ride, covered bike parking, dry storage for wet outerwear, and timely notification to employees were some of the topics discussed. With the short days of winter, it's important to remind employees who walk, bike, or ride the bus to work to remain visible during darkness by using lights and wearing high visibility outerwear combined with reflective materials.



Winter Star Commuter

Holly Gilbert, TRPC.

At the December Networking Session, a Star Commuter award was given to Katrina Lassiter, an employee of the WA State Dept. of Natural Resources, who was nominated by her ETC, Stephanie Earls. Katrina was not able to make the Networking Session, but ETCs heard from Stephanie. Both Katrina and Stephanie received a prize, and Katrina received a Star Commuter Certificate of Recognition.

Katrina commutes by bicycle year-round, including through the winter. She has been commuting by bicycle for 12 years, five days a week. Her commute is currently three miles round trip from East Olympia to Capitol Campus. She commutes by bicycle because she arrives at work energized and refreshed. Her main challenge to bicycling in the winter, is pulling on her rain clothes on a dark rainy morning. She started commuting by bicycle back in grad school and did it because it made good financial sense and she didn't have a car. She continues to do it because it's convenient and keeps her fit.

Congratulations to Katrina! Her choices strongly support the goals of CTR and are a model for other CTR affected employees to follow.

2019 CTR Events Calendar

Included in the packet for the Networking Session were the dates for 2019 Networking Sessions, Basic Trainings, and other CTR events. Find the full calendar on the [2019 Events Calendar](#) page on [ThurstonCommutes.org](#).

ETC Networking Session
March 19, 2019
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Annual Report & Survey Setup Form Due
March 29, 2019

Register for the Bicycle Commuter Challenge
April 1st - 30th

ETC Basic Training
April 17, 2019
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Bicycle Commuter Challenge
May 14
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ETC Basic Training
May 14, 2019
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Intercity Transit Bus Route & Schedule Change

Rob LaFontaine, Intercity Transit.

Rob LaFontaine spoke about Intercity Transit's December 16th service change which contained a few adjustments to bus service that were carryovers from Intercity Transit's bigger change on September 23rd. He also summarized the nine elements of Intercity Transit's long range plan that will be implemented over the next 8-10 years following the passage of Proposition 1 on the November ballot. The long range plan is available on intercitytransit.com for more information.

Holiday Party and CTR New Year's Resolutions

The Networking Session concluded with a Holiday Party and ETCs sharing their ideas on CTR New Year's Resolutions they could take back to their worksites. ETCs were encouraged to bring a CTR gift of no more than \$5.00 in value for a CTR gift exchange. While ETCs enjoyed holiday themed refreshments, they exchanged gifts. Nicky Upson, Intercity Transit, also shared the contents of a CTR themed Dollar Store prize, which was the last prize drawing of the day. A fun time was had by all.

Vanpool Program

Bree Anderson and Keith Clark, Intercity Transit.

Intercity Transit Vanpool Outreach Coordinators, Keith Clark and Bree Anderson, presented on the topic of Vanpool Insight: The Playbook of Overcoming Vanpool Excuses. Keith and Bree role played two different scenarios of potential riders, both expressing common concerns that have held them back from trying vanpool. The activity launched an open discussion of suggested ETC responses to address these concerns and assure potential riders that vanpool truly can work for anyone!

The presentation that was given at the Networking Session is available on the Thurston Commutes website as a refresher for those who attended and as a resource for new ETC's to learn how to best work with staff and explore vanpool options. Bree and Keith reminded everyone that the January ETC Tool Kit that Nicky Upson sends out, can support CTR communication efforts as the New Year begins, reminding staff of options to start 2019 with more money, more time and less stress.

For more information or if you would like to schedule your vanpool check in, see contact info below:

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We Can Help

Thurston Regional Planning Council

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Burlina Montgomery
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- State & Local Requirements & Compliance
- Training & Technical Support
- SAFE Ride Home
- Surveys & Annual Program Reports
- Networking & Promotions
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WA State Department of Transportation (for state worksites)

www.ctr.wa.gov
stateagencyctr@wsdot.wa.gov
360-709-8088

- State Agency CTR Program
- STAR Pass

Intercity Transit

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- Public Transportation Services & Support
- Intercity Transit Guide
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- Vanpools

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Rural & Tribal Transportation*

www.thurstonRT.org
360-956-7575

*Rural & Tribal Transportation serves rural portions of Thurston County and connects to Intercity Transit in Thurston County and Twin Transit in Lewis County. State Employees can use their STAR Pass.