



## ● Carpooling

Share a ride with at least one other person and you'll begin to save the very first day. Carpooling allows commuters to realize an instant savings in fuel cost and car maintenance. Riders also may be eligible for low mileage discounts on auto insurance premiums.

## ● Vanpooling

Make driving to work more than just an everyday occurrence. Share the ride with five or more other people by joining a vanpool. Vanpooling is a great way to make new friends, mingle, and relax while saving money. The cost of operating a vanpool is minimal when compared to the combined cost of operating six (or more) single occupant vehicles individually. In some instances, the employer underwrites vanpool programs; but in most cases, employees pitch in and enjoy the personal use of the van after hours and on weekends.

Incidentally, when vanpooling, employers begin to see real results. Tardiness and absenteeism begin to decline, as employee morale and positive attitudes increase. Studies have shown that commuting to work is very stressful, and this stress causes poor employee attitudes at work. Commuting to work doesn't have to be boring or stressful. Try a vanpool!

## ● Public Transportation

Ride the bus! It just makes sense, if there's a convenient bus route nearby. Leave the driving to someone else, while you read or relax on your way to work. No more "parking headaches" for you when you get to work.

## **Bicycling**

Who would have ever thought that bicycling to work would come back in style! Well, it has. For those who live close enough to work, bicycling could be the answer. Bicycling is one of the cheapest, cleanest, healthiest modes of transportation on the market today. Ponder the thought of exercising all the way to work and all the way home, and in the evening just relax because you've had your workout for the day!

## **Walking**

Walking is the cheapest mode of transportation; and like bicycling, it affords you the opportunity to exercise while you travel to work. But it's feasible only for those who live just a few blocks away from the work site. If this option is available to you, try it; you'll be invigorated when you arrive at work after a brisk walk, and you'll have the energy to get the day started!

## **Flexible Work Hour Programs**

Innovative employers are considering compressed work-weeks, during which employees work longer days and enjoy shorter work-weeks. This alternative alleviates travel problems all week long, with the advent of unconventional commute times and one weekday off. Similarly, staggered work schedules are becoming increasingly popular for employers who recognize the benefits of flexible arrivals to and departures from work schedules that directly impact the amount of traffic on roads and highways. It's revolutionary, but it works.

## **Telecommuting**

Telecommuting is the newest concept in commute alternatives. With the consent of management, this program allows certain categories of employees to work from their home on computer terminals or from a satellite office closer to the employee's home. This method proves to be a viable alternative for employees who rely heavily upon computer interaction to complete their daily tasks, like engineers, designers, and even some sales professionals. Telecommuting is a novel approach to be contemplated by the more progressive employers. But in making a decision regarding this alternative, it is important to know that the telecommuting alternative has been directly linked to greater employee job satisfaction and increased productivity. In addition, the employer who, as a result, has less need for parking and office space at the work facility can realize greater costs savings.

## **Where Can I Get More Information?**

Let us help you! Baton Rouge Area Commuter Services (BRACS) is dedicated to providing the commuter transportation assistance you may need for your worksite. For details, call us at (225) 344-RIDE (7433) or FAX (225) 383-3804.

*BRACS is a service of the  
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