Car Pooling

Benefits to the community:

* Roadways are less congested.
* Fewer cars need parking, making lots less congested and safer.
* Less exhaust from cars helps local clean air efforts.
* Using less fuel and oil conserves energy.

Benefits to Employers:

* Employers have fewer cars for which to maintain parking areas to clear snow, etc.
* Employers can join programs for recognition as “Best Workplace Commute” businesses.

Benefits to participants

* Employees save money and wear and tear on vehicles.
* Carpooling offers passengers personal time to rest, study and read during commute.
* Carpooling can increase comradery and trust among participating employees.

**Components of an organized carpool program:**

1. Employers can create a google calendar-type document online for employees to sign onto… or

2. Employers can register with a program such as “groupcarpool.com”. This website is very user-friendly. Drivers and riders can EASILY apply and find carpools from specific geographic areas. \*\* Employers offer a Sure Ride Home alternative, if emergencies arise. (Company vehicle may be needed) \*\*

3. Employers create tags for carpool vehicles to hang from their mirror signifying there are 2 more riders present. Security gate workers hand out tags to appropriate cars and coupons to riders.

4. Businesses allow poolers to park in designated, closer or more favorable areas of the lot.

5. Businesses can create incentives such as drawings which carpooler’s coupons count towards each month. Prizes can include cash prizes or gift cards, treats, coupons for local restaurants or movies, group luncheons, etc.

6. Human Resources or other departments advertise and offer incentives to encourage carpooling. Company wide-emails or voice messages, bulletin board posters, & flyers accompany paystubs, etc.

7. Creating a competitive atmosphere and offering prizes can grab the interest of employees to help them establish carpooling habits.

Considerations:

* Businesses must be able to see benefit to the establishment and the community. If they are supportive and willing to organize carpooling efforts, benefits include easier parking access, clean air and energy conservation plus alleviated road congestion.
* Businesses must be willing to support shift work where small groups of employees can join together to arrive at work and leave at the same time. **\*\* Businesses might also encourage or allow tele-commuting from home full or even part time.\*\***