



Commuter Choice® Employer E-Update

February 2003

The Commuter Choice® Employer E-Update: Promoting the Latest Highlights to Commuter® Choice Employers

In this Edition:

1. January phone forum makes the case for creating Emergency Ride Home Programs
2. Commuter Choice® Business Benefits Calculator now more user-friendly than ever!
3. Introducing our new and exclusive Commuter Choice® Success Story Program
4. EPA Region 9 recognizes City of Sunnyvale, CA employers at special Commuter Choice® awards ceremony
5. Commuter Choice® Leadership Initiative Welcomes **6** Commuter Choice® Employers in January representing **6,622** new employees!

1. January phone forum makes the case for creating Emergency Ride Home Programs

Providing a strong Emergency Ride Home Program to commuters is the strongest insurance employers and TMA's can offer commuters to encourage them to leave their cars at home when they go to work. That's what guest speakers, Ian Todreas of ERG, Inc., an EPA contractor performing research into Emergency Ride Home programs, Laura Ellsworth of Atlanta's Commute Connections and Virginia Gonzales of Kaiser Permanente shared as they explained their respective programs. To learn about their programs and tips for implementing a strong Emergency Ride Home program for your staff or customers, read the complete forum summary at: <http://www.commuterchoice.gov/employ/ph-forumindex.htm>.

2. Commuter Choice® Business Benefits Calculator now more user-friendly than ever!

Commuter Choice® Employers can now estimate financial, environmental and traffic related benefits of their commuter benefits program in an enhanced interactive environment! You can print both your inputs and reports generated and easily share the results of your analysis with others at your organization to show results. Estimate the environmental and financial savings for your program today at <http://www.commuterchoice.gov/resource/calc.htm>.

3. Introducing our new and exclusive Commuter Choice Success Story Program

Do you have an outstanding commuter benefits program? Is there something unique and newsworthy about your program? If you've answered yes to these questions, we want to tell your story! One of the best ways that that we publicly recognize the success and contributions our Commuter Choice® Employers make to their community is by telling their story to their local press. If you would like to have your company's commuter benefits success story publicized, please let us know by contacting your CCLI Account Manager or emailing us a commuterchoice@epa.gov.

4. **EPA Region 9 recognizes City of Sunnyvale, CA employers at special Commuter Choice® ceremony**

On January 14th, U.S. EPA's Region 9 representative, Marty Robin, participated in a special awards ceremony and presented plaques to Sunnyvale, California employers that were on the first-ever Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters. This annual list spotlights Bay area employers committed to improving the quality of life for commuters while reducing traffic congestion and air pollution. For more details about the event and the Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters, please visit our web-site: <http://www.commuterchoice.gov/campaign/sfepa.htm>.

5. **Commuter Choice® Leadership Initiative Welcomes 6 employers in January – over 6,622 new employees covered nationwide under our program!**

The Commuter Choice Leadership Initiative welcomes the following employers who signed on to participate in the Commuter Choice Leadership Initiative in January:

- **California:** Kaiser Permanente, Bayer Corp., Alexa Internet, SJSU Association of Student Transportation Solutions;
- **Florida:** Parsons Brinckerhoff;
- **Oregon:** Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory.

If there is someone in your organization who you want us to include on our *Commuter Choice E-Update* distribution list, please e-mail your request to commuterchoice@epa.gov with "Add to *Commuter Choice E-Update*" as the subject and the individual's e-mail address in the message text. If you would like to have your name removed from this list and have another person's name from your organization added to our distribution list, please send us an e-mail message to commuterchoice@epa.gov with "Remove from *Commuter Choice E-Update*" as the subject line. Please provide us with the e-mail address of the new contact person for your organization.