

Backgrounder

Colorado's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Coalition



Colorado Department of Transportation

The mission of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is to provide the best possible multi-modal transportation system for Colorado that most effectively moves people, goods, and information. CDOT achieves this mission through a productive government-business partnership to improve and expand the state's transportation system.

Colorado Human Resource Association

The Colorado Human Resource Association (CHRA) is the proud Denver metropolitan chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, the leading voice of the profession in the world. Since its inception over 65 years ago, CHRA has grown to 1,200 members with the purpose of serving the human resource professional and advancing the profession.

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the regional business community, advocating on behalf of member businesses on issues critical to the economic vitality and quality of life within the region. Chamber membership includes 3,000 metro area companies and their 300,000 employees, representing the region's largest corporations, as well as the smallest entrepreneurial ventures. Currently, the organization is focusing its efforts in the areas of economic development, transportation, health care, water storage, and small business services.

Denver Regional Council of Governments

The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) is a voluntary association of 50 county and municipal governments in the greater Denver area. The RideArrangers program helps individual commuters and area employers with their transportation needs through its carpool matching, vanpool, and telework consulting programs. Through RideArrangers, Eco Pass holders and employees of participating companies are guaranteed a free ride home in case of an emergency, a service that has helped many area employers qualify as Best Workplaces for CommutersSM.

Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.

The Downtown Denver Partnership is a nonprofit business organization that plans, manages, and develops downtown Denver as the urban core of the Rocky Mountain region. The Partnership is very active in transportation issues, with 40 percent of its own employees using alternative modes.

Regional Air Quality Council

The Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) is the Denver region's lead air quality planning agency, working to meet federal health standards and improve air quality in the seven-county area. The RAQC focuses primarily on ozone, carbon monoxide, and fine particulate matter.

Regional Transportation District

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) operates as a public transportation system in an eight-county service area, which includes all of Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, and Jefferson Counties, and parts of Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, and Weld Counties. RTD administers the Eco Pass, an annual transit pass employers can purchase that allows their employees to ride Local, Express, and Regional buses; an airport shuttle; and Light Rail.

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Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation

The Association for Commuter Transportation is a national membership organization representing professionals in all levels of government, private corporations, universities, vanpool management companies, and other nonprofit organizations that promote alternative commute options. Its Rocky Mountain Chapter covers Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Through Best Workplaces for CommutersSM, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognizes employers nationwide that offer outstanding commuter benefits. Participating organizations achieve a *National Standard of Excellence*, as defined by program criteria, that includes offering employees commuter benefits such as transit passes, vanpool subsidies, carpool matching, bike lockers, or compressed work schedules.

Other Supporting Organizations and Programs

City of Aspen

Boasting world class skiing and beautiful views, the City of Aspen is internationally renowned as a winter and summer resort community. The City of Aspen Transportation Department strives to provide convenient, affordable, and safe commute alternatives to Aspen residents and visitors. Its goal is to preserve Aspen's character by keeping traffic congestion and pollution at a minimum. The City of Aspen is the only Best Workplaces for CommutersSM District in the nation that encompasses an entire city.

City of Boulder

Located about 25 miles northwest of Denver, Boulder is recognized as a national leader for its creative programs to promote "green transportation." Since 1989, GO Boulder has been the community's partner for transportation choices. GO Boulder addresses transportation needs by developing innovative programs such as the Community Transit Network of high frequency buses, and the extensive system of off-street bicycle and pedestrian paths and underpasses. The city's Transportation Resource Center complements these efforts by offering a wealth of commuter information for local businesses and residents. As one example, the Center sponsors an "Urban Adventure Race" where citizens race each other by biking, riding a bus, running/walking, and repelling off a bus station. In 2003, EPA designated downtown Boulder as the nation's first Best Workplaces for CommutersSM District.

City of Glenwood Springs

Residents and visitors of the City of Glenwood Springs and the Roaring Fork Valley enjoy outstanding transit service and alternative transportation options. Local transit service operates 15 hours per day and 365 days a year, while regional transit service is available to Rifle and Aspen on a regular basis. For those who use the bus, or other forms of transportation, to commute to work, the city provides a Guaranteed Ride Home. The city also offers free carpool matching for commuters with similar working schedules and a beautiful trail system enabling people to easily get around town by walking or biking.

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DENVER
METRO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE



DOWNTOWN DENVER
PARTNERSHIP, INC.



REGIONAL AIR QUALITY COUNCIL

RMACT

Rocky Mountain Chapter of the
Association for Commuter Transportation

RTD

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

FlatIron Shopping District

Three FlatIron mall developers have joined forces with the City and County of Broomfield to offer a commute-friendly shopping experience. Working together, they provide employees and customers at the Flatiron Shopping District in Broomfield with free Eco Passes, easy access to public transportation, a free Zip Shuttle from store to store, and miles of bike paths that connect local communities with the shopping district. As a result, EPA designated this model shopping area a Best Workplaces for CommutersSM District in 2003.

SmartTrips™

The SmartTrips™ offices in the cities of Fort Collins, Greeley, and Loveland have public programs designed to reduce automobile dependency and promote the use of alternative transportation in the northern Colorado region. By encouraging residents to leave their cars at home at least one day a week, SmartTrips™ is helping to preserve air quality, decrease traffic congestion, conserve fuel, and promote better health throughout northern Colorado.

Stapleton Area Transportation Management Association

Conceived from the start as a sustainable community, Stapleton embraces the ideal of city life: an urban tapestry of diverse and distinctive homes, walkable tree-lined streets, neighborhood stores, nearby offices, schools and parks everywhere. When complete, Stapleton's 4,700 acres will set a new standard for the rebirth of urban America: a new generation of neighborhoods that 30,000 residents and 35,000 workers can call home.

Southeast Transportation Authority

The Southeast Transportation Authority (SETA) operates a bus system, known as The Link, in the southeast corridor of Denver through a public/private partnership. The Link is a free shuttle bus service that makes it possible for the more than 135,000 employees serving the 12.5 square-mile region to get to work and get around during the day.

Transit Alliance

Transit Alliance is a nonprofit coalition of 39 local governments, business associations, and citizen groups promoting expanded rail and bus transit in the Denver Metro region. Transit Alliance achieves this goal by providing information and reports; organizing public information campaigns; building understanding of the benefits of transit and related issues, facilitating public participation; supporting the implementation of transit projects; and helping to build regional agreement on steps to implement transit projects.

Transportation Solutions

Transportation Solutions is a public-private partnership designed to manage transportation demand in Cherry Creek North and along the South Colorado and University Boulevard corridors. Through a variety of initiatives, Transportation Solutions is working to make southeast Denver a more livable place by reducing congestion and increasing accessibility for its residents, employees, and consumers.

U.S. 36 Transportation Mobility Organization

The U.S. 36 Transportation Mobility Organization is a public-private partnership created to address traffic congestion and air quality problems along the Denver region of the U.S. 36 Corridor. The organization serves as a key resource for area employers and their commuting needs. Its services help employers minimize commuting cost, improve quality of life, reduce commuter stress, and improve employee recruitment, retention, and productivity.

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