



Sustainable Transportation Plan

Every day, more than 93,000 students and 7,000 teachers commute to over 300 schools across the District. That means thousands of people driving alone, leading to traffic congestion and wear and tear on our roads.

Stressful commutes can put a damper on staff and students before they even arrive to school. Having a Sustainable Transportation Plan for your school is a great way to help educators and students discover transportation options between home and school. It also helps foster healthy and active travel habits.

goDCgo School Services can help you develop a Sustainable Transportation Plan that promotes biking, walking, carpooling, and taking transit to school.

Did you know?



A third of parents in the District drive their youngest child to school and nearly 75% of school staff drive alone to work.

However, nearly three quarters of families and school staff want more information about other transportation options.

Information About Your School

The first step to developing a Sustainable Transportation Plan is to gather some basic information about your school. With this information, goDCgo School Services can help you develop sustainable transportation goals for your school.

School Name: _____

School Type: _____

School Ward: _____

Title I School: _____

PMF Score (charters only): _____

Grades Served: _____

Number of Students Enrolled: _____

Number of Staff: _____

Number of Staff Enrolled in Pre-Tax Transportation Benefits: _____

Number of Parking Spaces: _____

Cost of Parking: _____

Number of Parking Spaces used by School Staff: _____

Shuttle for Students and/or Staff: _____

Number of Kids Ride Free Cards Received: _____

Number of Kids Ride Free Cards Distributed: _____

Number of Bike Racks Near the School: _____

Location of Nearest Capital Bikeshare Station: _____

Goals for a Sustainable Transportation Plan

Now that we've gathered information about your school, the next step is to figure out which strategies will help your staff and students get to school more easily.

1 Increase staff and teacher participation in commuter benefits and manage parking demand.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black top, is sitting at a white round table. A man in a blue button-down shirt is sitting across from her. They are both looking at several colorful brochures or documents spread out on the table. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an office or meeting space.

How can your school meet this goal?

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2 Increase the number of students and staff walking, biking, and taking public transit to school.

Two women are walking towards the camera. The woman on the left is wearing a brown blazer over a light-colored top. The woman on the right is wearing a white top and a dark skirt. In the background, a red and black Metro bus is visible, with the number '2005' on its side. The bus has 'METRO' written on its front.

How can your school meet this goal?

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3 Increase the number of families who carpool and walk to school with their kids.

A young child with a purple backpack is walking away from the camera. An adult's hand is visible, holding the child's hand. The child is wearing a pink top and a purple backpack. They are walking on a paved path with greenery in the background.

How can your school meet this goal?

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Strategies:

Get recognized for your commitment to sustainable transportation by becoming a School Ambassador. For each strategy that you implement, you not only increase your school's impact, you will receive a designation as a School Ambassador. As you rise through the levels, you will receive more perks and support from goDCgo School Services.

Take a look at the strategies below and check off the ones your school has in place. You might already be making an impact.



BRONZE LEVEL: Complete at least one strategy for staff or students

Staff-focused strategies:

- Conduct baseline commuter survey of school and administrative staff
- Express interest in offering transit benefits or alternative commuter benefits program
- Include transportation information (bike, walk, transit, rideshare) on intranet, bulletin boards, school website, etc.
- Distribute information about available transit benefits to all new hires and employee (e.g. flyer, email, etc.)

Student-focused strategy:

- Provide information to all students and families about Kids Ride Free



SILVER LEVEL: Complete required strategy plus one additional strategy for staff or students

Required strategy:

- Designate a school transportation coordinator and share their contact information with goDCgo

Staff-focused strategies:

- Provide pre-tax transportation benefits for transit or vanpool use
- Meet with goDCgo School Services Team and develop a Sustainable Transportation Plan
- Set-up a permanent transportation information display and/or transit screens
- Host a transportation or benefits fair to promote commuter benefits
- Participate in the Capital Bikeshare Corporate Membership Program
- Install electric car charging station onsite
- Facilitate internal carpool or vanpool formation meetings
- Provide preferential parking for carpools or vanpools
- Provide bike racks or lockers
- Promote commuter transportation events like Bike to Work Day, Bus to Work Day, etc.
- Promote the Guaranteed Ride Home program

Student-focused strategies:

- Host student and family-focused transportation events like Bike to School Day and Walk to School Day
- Promote student and family-focused transportation events like Bike to School Day and Walk to School Day



GOLD LEVEL: Complete required strategy and one additional strategy for staff or students

Required strategy:

- Conduct an annual staff commute survey to track progress of sustainable transportation goals and plan

Staff-focused strategies:

- Have 20% or more staff participating in pre-tax transportation benefits
- Implement a parking fee but provide free or significantly discounted parking for carpools/ vanpools *OR* provide a parking 'cashout' option
- Supplement the Guaranteed Ride Home program with payment for additional trips
- Provide shuttle service to and from transit stations for school staff
- Provide free or discounted courses for staff on how to learn to ride a bike
- Provide financial incentives for walking, biking, taking transit, or carpooling
- Provide a comprehensive walk or bike program (includes installing showers, bike racks/lockers, or providing financial incentives for bicycling/walking)

Student-focused strategies:

- Provide students free or discounted courses on how to learn to ride a bike
- Facilitate external carpool or 'walkpool' formation meetings for students and families
- Conduct travel surveys of students and families every two years
- Provide shuttle service to and from transit stations for students



PLATINUM LEVEL: Complete at least one required strategy

Required strategy:

- Implement three or more of the Gold Level sustainable transportation programs AND complete three or more Silver Level strategies
- Achieve staff commuter benefit enrollment goal in your sustainable transportation plan AND SOV reduction goal in your Sustainable Transportation Plan



Proposed Plan

Whether your school is starting from scratch or already has a few transportation benefits and amenities in place, it's always good to have a plan for implementing more strategies to increase the number of staff and students using sustainable transportation. Here's a proposed year-long plan to help you create a commute-friendly school for staff and students.

Timeframe	Sustainable Transportation Strategy
<p>July</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Appoint School Transportation Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Meet with goDCgo to develop goals and plans <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Do commuter survey of staff <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote commuter benefits to new and existing hires <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Provide transportation information to new and existing students and families <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>August</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote sustainable transportation options to staff, students, and families for the first day Back to School (New School Year/New Commute) <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Set up transportation display <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Park(ing) Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Car Free Day <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in Park(ing) Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in Car Free Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Walk to School Day <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in Walk to School Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Conduct Show of Hands Survey of students <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>November</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Send out reminders for Commuter Benefits Open Enrollment <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>December</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Host Commuter Benefits Open Enrollment event <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in New Year, New Commute Campaign <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Send out reminders to students so they can get replacement kids Ride Free cards <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>January</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote sustainable transportation options to staff for Back to School <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote sustainable transportation options to students for Back to School <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Bus to Work Day/Transportation Equity Day <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>February</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in Bus to Work/Transportation Equity Day <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>March</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote National Walk to Work Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote WABA bicycling classes to staff <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Install bike rack and/or showers <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: right;">Participate in National Walk to Work Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote National Bike Month <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote National Bike to School Day <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Bike to Work Week <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="text-align: right;">Promote Bike to Work Day <input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed Plan (continued)

Timeframe	Sustainable Transportation Strategy
<p>May</p>	<p>Participate in National Bike Month <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Promote Capital Bikeshare as a form of commuting to and from school <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Host bike safety course for staff and students <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Participate in National Bike to School Day <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Participate in Bike to Work Week <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Participate in Bike to Work Day <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>June</p>	<p>Check in with School Services Team at goDCgo to track progress <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Continuously</p>	<p>Include transportation brochures/info in new hire packets <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Provide brochures in communal areas for staff, student, and parent inquiries <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Provide information on nearby transportation options on your school's website <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Include transportation information in school newsletter <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Promote sustainable transportation in communal areas (mail room, lobby, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Check in regularly with school services team at goDCgo to track progress <input type="checkbox"/></p>



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d. WE ARE WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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