

Sidebars

Things to Consider When Choosing an Alternative Commute

Deciding to ride the bus, join a carpool or vanpool is an important decision—it could mean involvement with the group for 30, 60 or even 90+ minutes on workdays. CommuteInfo staff recommends that you take some time to meet your potential ridesharing buddies or learn more about your transit options before making the decision to start a ridesharing arrangement. Contact the transit operator, driver and/or other riders and ask questions.

Here are some things you may want to ask to help you make your decision:

- Where will I need to meet the bus/carpool/vanpool?
- How flexible are the pickup times?
- What type of vehicle is used?
- How many riders are there?
- What costs are shared? (Maintenance, Fuel, Parking)
- Are riders allowed to smoke during the commute?
- Is music played during the commute?
- Are eating and drinking permitted in the vehicle?
- Should I be prepared to drive sometimes?
- What is the back-up plan in case of an emergency?

For more information about these commuting options and more in Southwestern PA, call the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission's CommuteInfo program staff at 1-888-819-6110 or visit the website at www.commuteinfo.org.

Finding the Commute That is Uniquely You

Not looking for a long term commitment? Want flexibility? Need something just temporarily?

Consider Carpooling. Carpooling happens when 2 or more people decide to share a ride to work or school. Many people carpool everyday. Most of those carpools were formed by people who talked with their friends, family, neighbors & co-workers and decided they wanted to share a ride.

Work a steady shift? Looking for a longer term alternative?

Consider vanpooling. A vanpool is a group of 7 to 15 people who commute to and from work or school together but do not necessarily work or attend school in the same location. One member volunteers to be the van driver. Vanpools typically travel more than 15 miles one way and only have one scheduled trip into work or school and back home per day.

Near a transit line or park-n-ride? Need rides at varying times?

Consider transit. There are [10 public fixed route transit operators](#) within the Southwestern PA region, many of which provide local as well as commuter services.

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