

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

# Commuter Connections Provides Area Commuters with Options for Navigating Metro's SafeTrack and Winter Weather

Washington, D.C. (January 26, 2017) – Commuter Connections can help metropolitan Washington area commuters navigate all kinds of travel challenges—from upcoming winter weather to Metro SafeTrack surges—with ridesharing programs, services, and an app to make getting around easier, faster, and cheaper.

"Commuters don't have to go it alone—they can rideshare to reduce costs and inconvenience," said Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Commuter Connections, a regional network of transportation organizations coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. "Commuter Connections is the region's resource for commute alternatives. Everyone wins when there are less cars on the road."

### Commuter Connections' Rideshare Program is free, easy, and customizable.

Just <u>sign up</u> to be immediately connected to more than 20,000 fellow commuters and receive up-to-the-minute ridesharing information. Use your account to pinpoint the closest transit stop, park and ride, telework center or identify car or vanpools along your route. Access your free account using your computer or mobile phone.

#### The CarpoolNow app is only a download away.

Downloadable via <u>Google Play</u>, <u>Apple iTunes</u>, and <u>BlackBerry World</u>, the CarpoolNow app connects drivers with those seeking a ride. Users simply download the app, request or offer a ride, and the app connects them with another commuter going in the same direction—at no cost to the passenger or the driver.

#### Get paid to rideshare with 'Pool Rewards'.

Start or join a car or vanpool and get paid to commute. New carpoolers can earn up to \$130 during a 90-day reporting period, while new vanpools are eligible for a \$200 monthly incentive.

## Unexpected emergency? Don't worry.

Commuters who regularly (twice a week) carpool, vanpool, bike, walk or take transit to work can sign-up for the <u>Guaranteed Ride Home Program</u> (GRH) and get a free and reliable ride home when one of life's unexpected emergencies arise. Re-registrants also receive <u>GRH</u> Rewards!

## Not ready to commit to change?

Register to browse the Commuter Connections Bulletin Board for commuters who live in your area and contact them via email about carpooling or vanpooling.

Visit www.commuterconnections.org to learn more.

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Commuter Connections is a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and is funded by the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Departments of Transportation, as well as the U.S. Department of Transportation. Commuter Connections provides free ridematching services and promotes alternatives to drive-alone commuting, and offers the free Guaranteed Ride Home program.www.commuterconnections.org