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Top Commuting Options for Metropolitan Atlanta Residents

How to Lessen Traffic Congestion, Improve Air Quality by Reducing Miles Driven

ATLANTA (December 19, 2023) – Love it or hate it, there is a move afoot to return to the workplace. Many people who worked remotely during the last several years are now required to spend at least part of each week onsite. According to a <u>survey</u> of 1,000 business leaders, 90% said they expect their companies to institute return-to-office policies by the end of 2024.

"Although the camaraderie of being in the workplace may be enjoyable, enduring heavy traffic to get there is not," said Michael Odom, Mobile & Area Sources Manager, Georgia EPD. "In addition to being a source of air pollution, the use of single-occupancy vehicles to commute can be time-consuming and costly."

Fortunately, metro Atlantans have options that make commuting easier on their wallets as well as on the environment.

<u>Georgia Commute Options</u> serves as a clearinghouse for commuters, employers, and schools who share its mission of lessening traffic congestion and improving air quality by reducing the miles driven in vehicles with only one occupant.

Commuters are encouraged to take advantage of resources available online from Georgia Commute Options at <u>www.gacommuteoptions.com</u>. These resources include:

- An online <u>calculator</u> to estimate the financial cost of commuting.
- An interactive map allows commuters to find carpools, vanpools, mass transit routes, bike routes, and walking routes between points in the metro region. The map also offers locations for bike-sharing, park-and-ride, car-sharing, and other options.
- To make going greener more enticing, Georgia Commute Options offers cash incentive programs to commuters when they take advantage of clean commute alternatives.

"There are a number of excellent options and incentives for metro Atlanta commuters seeking a better way to get to work," Mr. Odom continued. "Many of these alternatives reinforce the mission of Georgia's Clean Air Force: to help our area attain and maintain federal clean air standards."

To download an infographic, visit the Georgia's Clean Air Force website at <u>https://cleanairforce.com/common/press</u>.

About Georgia's Clean Air Force

Georgia's Clean Air Force (GCAF), in partnership with the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), is responsible for the management of the Enhanced Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program throughout Atlanta's 13 metro counties. Since 1996, Georgia's Inspection and Maintenance Program has prevented more than 2.1 million tons of harmful ozone-forming pollutants from entering the air we breathe. The program has also identified and repaired more than 4.3 million heavy-polluting vehicles. For more information, please visit www.cleanairforce.com.

Sources: <u>https://www.resumebuilder.com/90-of-companies-will-return-to-office-by-the-end-of-2024/;</u> <u>https://gacommuteoptions.com/</u>

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