

## The Issue: Traffic Congestion

Every year, traffic congestion costs the Chicago region \$7.3 billion dollars. Absent, tardy, unproductive, and stressed out employees affect an employer's bottom line. Everyone pays the price of lower quality of life caused by poor air quality and gridlock.



## The Solution: Commute Options

What would it take to get you to trade all of this traffic congestion and smog for a less expensive, less stressful, and more energy-efficient commute? The Chicago Climate Action Plan has set a goal of reducing 19,000 cars daily on area roads. Employers can play a significant role in achieving this goal by enrolling in the Commute Options program available to employers across the Chicago region.

Through the Commute Options program, we'll survey an organization's employees about their commuting patterns and analyze the data at **no cost** to the employer. We'll make recommendations and work with the employer to design a program that gives employees commute alternatives to driving alone. The program's long-term goals include improving employee satisfaction and retention, decreasing employer costs, and improving the environment. After an organization's Commute Options program is underway, we'll conduct a cost-free evaluation of the program's fiscal and environmental impacts.

Examples of Commute Options include:

- Pre-tax transit benefits
- Employer-assisted housing and home energy-efficiency retrofits
- Car and ride-share
- Vanpools
- Bike to work
- Proximate commute (working from a different office or business location closer to home)
- Tele-commute and flexible work schedules

### Commute Options Program Benefits

- Attract and retain skilled, valued employees
- Expand labor pool
- Reduce traffic-related stress and parking costs
- Improve community health and reduce health care costs
- Take advantage of corporate tax incentives
- Enhance company image
- Support sustainability efforts
- Free Commute Options survey and recommendations
- Cost-free evaluation of program results

### For More Information

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# CommuteOptions

A public-private partnership formed to advance the Chicago Climate Action Plan

## Commute Options Partners

**Public Transit Services**  
(Includes shuttles and pre-tax benefits)



Regional Transportation Authority

cta

pace

Metra®

**Biking, Walking, Car Sharing, and Transit Services**



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE

CNT  
Sustainable Communities  
Attainable Results

**Employer-Assisted Housing and Energy-Efficiency Retrofits**



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

ENERGY IMPACT ILLINOIS

Metropolitan Planning Council

**Air Quality Improvement**



CHICAGO CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

CLEAN AIR COUNTS  
Make A Visible Difference

## Consulting and Support

