Important Phone Numbers

Oahu
DOT Ridesharing Hotline
692-7695

Big Island
Hawaii Mass Transit
961-8744

Kauai County Transportation
246-8110

Maui County Transportation
270-7511

Hawaii DOT Rideshare Website
http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/rideshare

State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation

The Carpooler's Survival Guide

Highways Division, Traffic Branch
Transportation Demand Management/
Ridesharing Office
601 Kamokila Boulevard, Rm 602
Phone: 808-692-7695
Fax: 808-692-7690
Email: rideshare@hawaii.gov
Welcome to Carpooling!

Carpooling is an easy, inexpensive and stress free way to commute to and from work. It involves people sharing the driving or cost of commuting in a private vehicle. Carpoolers can share rides with their families, neighbors or co-workers.

Carpooling is the most flexible form of transportation other than driving yourself. It can be adapted to almost any schedule. You can carpool round-trip or one-way only, as frequently as your schedule permits. You can also take turns driving or arrange to drive on the day(s) that you need your car for errands or appointments. For commuters who drop off children at school or a day care center, the facility can serve as a carpool meeting site. Some employers offer reduced-rate or free preferential parking spaces for carpoolers.

Carpooling affords commuters numerous benefits. It provides them with companions during their commute. Passengers may use the time to read the newspaper or a novel. Drivers may use high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to reduce commuting time.

The State Department of Transportation (DOT) can assist commuters by providing a free carpool matching service. Commuters who register with the DOT receive a personalized match list of potential carpoolers in their neighborhoods.

Here are some suggestions for starting a carpool:

Phone your potential carpoolers. Call others interested in forming a carpool to see if their schedules and traveling habits to and from work are similar to yours.

Schedule ground rules. Who drives, and when? How often do you carpool? Arrange for pick-ups and drop-offs. What should you do on days you can’t carpool, especially if it’s your turn. What should you do if you have to work late or go home early? How long will the carpool wait if someone is late? What sort of music will be played, if any? Is smoking allowed? What stops are allowed, if any? What are the duties of the driver? How will you share the cost? Keep in mind that the more you discuss in advance, the fewer problems you’ll have once you’re carpooling.

Make sure all drivers have adequate insurance and keep their vehicles in top running condition. Avoid breakdowns and accidents by having regular check-ups and service.

Set up a trial carpool day or week. It will help establish a schedule that works for everyone.

Organize a schedule for driving responsibilities. If members of your carpool want to alternate driving, decide who wants to alternate and on which day(s) or week(s). Set up a plan of action in case a driver is sick, has a car in the shop or must work late. Make sure you have a back-up driver or that everyone is able to make other arrangements.

Establish a method for reimbursing driving expenses.

Call a card with names and work and home phone numbers of all carpool members.

Be prompt whether you’re driving or riding. Everyone appreciates being on time.

Be considerate. Consideration for others makes carpooling enjoyable for everyone.

State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation

Highways Division, Traffic Branch
Transportation Demand Management/
Ridesharing Office
601 Kamikila Boulevard, Rm 602
Phone: 808-692-7695
Fax: 808-692-7690
Email: rideshare@hawaii.gov