

2008 Program Overview

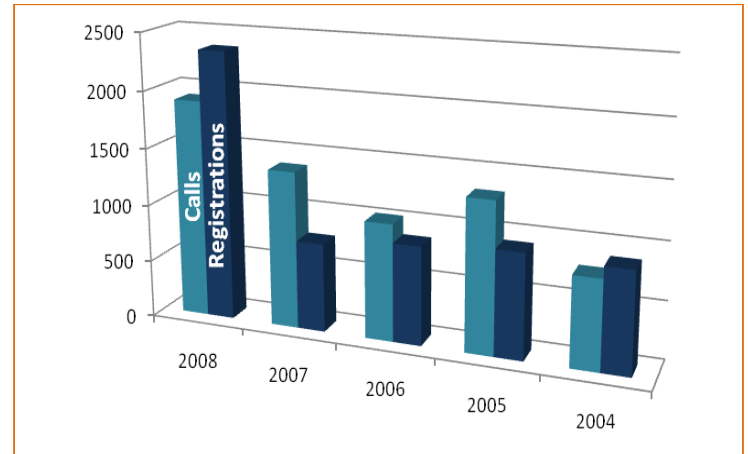
The Year at a Glance

- ⇒ Added **2,352** new commuters into the ridematching database.
- ⇒ Responded to **1,907** calls from commuters, providing information on transit, vanpools, carpools, bikepools and park-n-ride facility locations.
- ⇒ **558** participants in the regional vanpool program (**45** vanpools, 90%+ occupancy of available seats).
- ⇒ **586** participants in the regional carpool program (**272** carpools, average occupancy of 2.15 people per carpool).
- ⇒ **123** participants registered for bikepool matching.

Estimated Program Benefits

For the year, assuming 20% of the match reports result in a rideshare arrangement

- ⇒ **\$4,841,974** Commuting Costs Saved
- ⇒ **2,100** Parking Spaces Vacated
- ⇒ **312.02** Carbon Monoxide Reduction (tons)
- ⇒ **40.92** Volatile Organic Compounds Reduction (tons)
- ⇒ **50.26** Oxides of Nitrogen Reduction (tons)



Highlights

2008 was a year of growth for the CommuteInfo program. The year included development and testing of an outreach model, webinars, expanded outreach activities, and unprecedented numbers of commuter requests (see chart above).

Throughout the year, program staff and partners were reaching out throughout the region to provide education and information about how the CommuteInfo program could benefit regional commuters and employers. In addition, the program received many mentions in the regional newspapers and on radio.

The CommuteInfo program continued to offer its core set of services, including a toll free number 1-888-819-6110, and a website www.commuteinfo.org for information and referrals, vanpool/carpool rider matching, consultations with employers about their relocation as well as their employees' transportation needs, transit/biking/walking resources and information about park-n-ride facilities.



Paul Fancsali, from CommuteInfo's vanpool vendor, VPSI, handing the keys to volunteer vanpool driver, Malene Bapiste. This was the first of the 15 new vanpool groups that began by the end of the year.

Dedicated to increasing the number of commuters in Southwestern PA sharing a ride to work, the CommuteInfo program is designed to serve as an information clearing house for commuters and employers. The goal is for commuters living, working or attending school within the 10-county SPC region to choose ridesharing at least twice a week by providing them with viable options, incentives and encouragement.

Thanks to partnerships with transportation management associations, transportation providers, businesses and non-profit service organizations the CommuteInfo program is able to provide services throughout the Southwestern Pennsylvania region.