

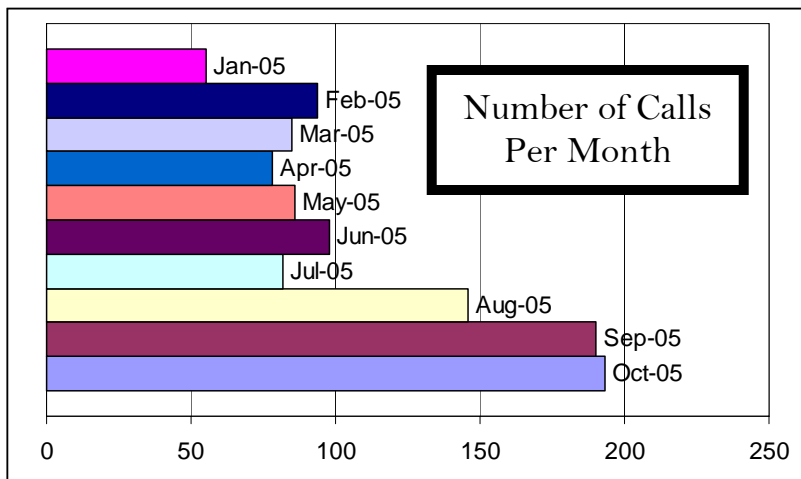
October 2005 SPC Activity Update

Presentations and Information Tables:

- October 11 – Transportation Fair at Bayer, spoke with over 75 employees
- October 6 “Communities in Motion Day” – in-service for members of the Workforce Development Professionals Network, presented to over 20 workforce developers along with representatives of the Access to Work Collaborative, WorkLinks, Travelers Aid and Goodwill Industries
- October 12 – Transportation Fair at Allegheny General Hospital, met with over 70 employees
- October 21 – Meeting with Employees of IDL (multiple locations involved via telephone/video conferencing, spoke with over 50 employees to help them learn the options available to them as all offices will be consolidated into their Butler location
- October 25 – In-Service for Beaver County Human Services Professionals (Travel Training 101), led by BCTA and ACTA, presented to over 20 human service professionals along with Port Authority
- October 26 – Transportation Fair at VA Hospital (University Drive), led by OTMA, spoke with well over 125 employees interested in learning more about the options available to them as they close the Highland Drive location and relocate most employees to the University Drive location

The Month at a Glance:

- ⇒ Added **251** new commuters into the ridematching database (increasing the total to 929 new commuters registered in 2005). There were a total of 704 in 2004.
- ⇒ Responded to **193** calls from commuters, providing information on transit, vanpools, carpools and park & ride lot locations (increasing the total to 1,107 calls from commuters in 2005). There were a total of 835 in 2004.



- ⇒ **428** participants in the regional vanpool program (88% occupancy of available seats).
- ⇒ **5,613** visitors to the CommuteInfo.org website (increasing the total to 60,652 visitors since we unveiled the new site in May 2004).

Awareness Building/Marketing:

- October 2 – Article appeared in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette which discussed commuting alternatives and mentioned the CommuteInfo program.
- October 19 – Hosted a reporter from The Herald Star and our BHJ partner on a vanpool ride along. The resulting article appeared in Sunday, October 30th edition of the paper.
- Updated the CommuteInfo website to include the newly translated Spanish versions of the brochures and commuter profile. An addition was also made so commuters, who had previously registered and just wanted to update their information, could do so without completing an entire new profile.
- Continued working on updating the transit brochure.

Partner Meeting, Support & Training:

- October 14 – Assisted OTMA when meeting with representatives from UPMC, Children’s & Magee Hospitals to discuss ideas for commuting alternatives their staff members.

- October 18 – Participated in the ACTA Study Oversight Committee Meeting. As a follow-up to that meeting, the ridesharing database was queried to identify commuters in the airport corridor and those identified were sent an invitation to participate in the study by filling out the survey on the ACTA website.
- October 20 – Marketing Committee met. The committee discussed keeping the program in the media’s attention, development of a media kit.
- October 20 – Hosted a webinar on *Gas Prices and TDM Services – Opportunity or Chaos?*
- October 24 – Participated in the follow-up meeting, led by PDP to discuss the possibility of establishing a regional car sharing program.

Other:

- Performed semi-annual “cleaning” of the commuter data in the program’s ridesharing database. This involved contacting commuters who are registered but have not had any activity in their file within the past 6 months. The commuters are asked whether they want to stay in the system, be removed or if they want a new report sent to them. Once the responses are received the records are updated.
- Continued researching national Emergency Ride Home (ERH) programs. Based on the research, a new program concept for the region was developed. The draft will be presented to the partners at the regular meeting in November for review. The goal is to launch the ERH program in January 2006.
- October 28 – Met with Merrill Stabile of ALCO Parking and Lucinda Beattie from PDP to continue discussing the idea of providing discounted parking to registered carpools and vanpools who end their commute in Downtown Pittsburgh.
- The National Transit Database (NTD) annual report was compiled and submitted by the October 28th deadline.
- The NTD monthly ridership reports were updated for calendar year 2005 based on a system wide change made by NTD requesting additional information.
- The quarterly NTD Safety and Security report was submitted.
- VPSI continued collecting rider and vehicle information required for NTD reporting. VPSI submitted the monthly invoice for the NTD data collection and vanpool subsidy through the Capital Cost of Contracting program.



Upcoming Commute Options Awareness Events/Ridesharing Presentations:

- Wednesday, November 2 – Presentation to Ambridge Chamber of Commerce Board
- Wednesday, November 2 – Presentation to ReeseTeleservices in Greensburg
- Thursday, November 3 – Presentation to the Serra Club (BHJ)
- Wednesday, November 30 – Transportation Fair at Leed’s
- Wednesday, January 18 – Presentation to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (Downtown) Lunch and Learn Program
- Saturday, January 21 – Participate in Indiana County Chamber of Commerce EXPO 2006