

Employee Traffic Reduction Program (ETRP)



CO L O R A D O

Air Pollution Control Division

Department of Public Health & Environment




Ozone, GHGs & Transportation

- The Denver Metro/North Front Range area does not meet Federal air quality standards for ozone and being re-designated a severe nonattainment area by EPA
- Transportation is a significant source of ozone precursors and greenhouse gases (GHGs)
- The Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) has developed an ETRP framework with input from local partners



ETRP Rulemaking Process

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement
 - April 7, 13, 20, 21 & 28 stakeholder meetings/listening sessions
 - GHG Transportation comment form
- Engagement process  ETRP refinement/proposal
- Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) meetings
 - May 20-21, 2021 (Request for Hearing)
 - August 19-20, 2021 (Rulemaking)



ETRP Overview

- At least 27 successful mandatory programs throughout the United States
- Requires large employers to develop and implement a plan to reduce the number of single-occupant vehicle (SOV) trips to and from the worksite
- Will apply to an employer's worksite(s) in the ozone nonattainment area with 100 or more employees
- Some Transportation Management Associations (TMA) within the Front Range area offer voluntary commute reduction programs/assistance (Way to Go partnership)



What ETRP Is Not

- A ban on commuting to perform work duties
- A one-size-fits-all approach
- A way to force work commuters over to carpools, transit or bikes
- A limit on travel for other activities (shopping, taking kids to school, entertainment, etc.)



What Will ETRP Require?

- Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC)
- Development and implementation of an ETRP plan to achieve SOV commute rate reduction goal
- Annual employee survey to assess commuting modes/practices
- Annual reporting
- Timeline
 - Early-mid 2022 assign ETC and complete initial employee survey
 - Mid-2022 develop and implement ETRP plan and submit first report
 - Mid-2023 achieve initial reduction goal



ETRP Options

- Employers can achieve employee SOV commute reduction goal by implementing a range of measures including but not limited to:
 - Telecommuting
 - Flexible/compressed work schedules
 - Public transit benefits/subsidies
 - Ridesharing
 - Employee shuttles
 - Parking management
 - Bike commuting services



ETRP Successes

- Charter Communications (Colorado - Way to Go)
 - Reduced SOV commute rate 11% in first year and saw 200% increase in transit riders
- Davita (Colorado - Way to Go)
 - 86% of employees non-SOV commuters
- City of Lakewood (Colorado - Way to Go)
 - 145% increase in alternate commute participation in year 1
- Seattle Children's Hospital (Seattle, WA)
 - Reduced SOV commute rate from 73% to 33%
 - Avoided construction of a \$20 million parking garage and strengthened employee engagement



ETRP Benefits

- In addition to GHG and ozone reductions and helping to reduce traffic congestion, ETRP can provide a variety of other benefits for employers and employees:
 - Reduced overhead costs
 - Enhanced employee recruitment and retention
 - Expanded employee benefits at low/no cost and commute cost-savings
 - Enhanced corporate/public image
 - Reduced employee stress and enhanced productivity
 - Increased employment opportunities for the disabled and others unable to meet traditional work hours



Next Steps

- APCD is seeking input from community members, businesses, planning organizations, local governments, etc. on ETRP
- Stakeholder meetings' registration, GHG transportation comment form, and additional information available at:

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions-from-transportation>

Thank you for your time and feedback!