

Inside Lane

IN THIS EDITION

- [Thanks for supporting the Commuter Challenge](#)
- [Get a fresh perspective on Commuter Choice Awards](#)
- [Learn about new Go-To features](#)
- [Watch our YouTube channel](#)
- [Meet the new executive director of Downtown Minneapolis TMO](#)

NEWS LINKS

- [What's ahead for Central Corridor construction](#)
- [Southwest Corridor gets green light](#)
- [eWorkplace wins national award](#)

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- [Get ready for the State Fair!](#)
- [Take the free Metro Transit Art Hop](#)
- [Your commuter transportation solution partners](#)

FORWARD

Click to forward this e-mail to a friend



Thanks for supporting the Commuter Challenge

Companies and organizations from across the Twin Cities encouraged employees to participate in the 2010 Commuter Challenge, which ended June 27.

Thanks for helping us cheer on your employees to replace drive-alone trips and instead ride the bus or train, bicycle, carpool, walk, telework or vanpool.

We appreciate your support of this year's Challenge, whether it was hosting a commuter fair, planning a special event for your employees, posting promotional materials or in other ways.

Prizewinner names will be posted at metrotransit.org after July 26.

We look forward to your involvement in next year's Commuter Challenge!

2010 Commuter Challenge Quick Facts

Pledges: 14,952
Commuter fairs hosted: 260+

Participants who extended their Challenge: 3,467
Estimated CO₂ emission reduction: 500 tons
Estimated fuel saved: 53,000 gallons

Don't stop now! Extend your Challenge

Even though the 2010 Commuter Challenge is over, your employees can continue to extend their Challenge and enter to win even more prizes with

the Commuter Challenge [Trip Tracker](#). Every time you take the bus or train, bicycle, carpool, walk, telework or vanpool instead of driving alone, log on and track your trip. We'll have drawings every week for a \$50 gift card. If you've tracked one or more trips during a week, you're entered in that week's drawing.

Get a fresh perspective on Commuter Choice Awards

We're looking for representatives from Twin Cities employers and organizations to help judge the 2010 Commuter Choice Awards.

You can help us identify the best and most innovative work by organizations and individuals who promote alternatives to driving alone.

It's a volunteer position and requires about two hours of meeting time and 5 to 8 hours of prep work on your own. Judging starts in mid to late October. If you plan to submit a nomination for this year's Commuter Choice Awards, you aren't eligible to be a judge.

You'll join a panel of Twin Cities transportation experts, community leaders and human resources, wellness and sustainability professionals. It's a fun way to get an inside view on all the great work being done to help reduce congestion in the metro area.

Interested? Contact [Rachel Dungca](#) or call 612-349-7536.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Learn about new Go-To features

We're making travel with a Go-To Card, Metropass, Go-To College Pass and U-Pass even easier and more convenient. Please help us spread the word at your organization.

There's a new Check Balance link in the blue toolbox on the right side of most pages at [metrotransit.org](#) or [check your balance here](#) by entering the serial number from the back of your card. You'll see your card's value, including 31-Day Passes and their expiration dates and the amount of remaining stored value. You can also see any purchases you've made or rides you've taken in the past 30 days.

On the go? Use your phone

As long as you have a phone and valid credit card, you can check your balance or add value to any Go-To Card, Metropass, U-Pass or Go-To College Pass. Call 612-373-3333 and use our new automated phone system.

Enter your information by speaking or using your phone's keypad. You also can use the system to deactivate a card.

Remember, it may take up to three business days for value to be available on your card after phone or online purchases.

There's more! You also can use our new automated phone system to get schedule information on routes that serve the Park & Ride nearest you. Call 612-373-3333, option 7, and either speak the name of your Park & Ride or we'll provide a list by city. This service will tell you departure times from Park & Rides as well as travel time comparisons by bus and by car for select facilities.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Watch our YouTube channel

If you're looking for another way to help your employees learn more about their transportation choices, we have a new tool you can use.

We've posted 20 videos on metrotransit.org. The videos cover a wide range of topics, including how to ride buses and trains, how to pay fares and what fares to buy, how to be safe while riding, how to load bicycles and more!

Most videos can be found under the "Rider Services" and "Fares and Passes" tabs at metrotransit.org. You can link to these pages from your website or embed the videos on your own web page or intranet site. Go to Metro Transit's YouTube [channel](#) for more details; code to embed a video is located under each video screen.

Help customers or visitors reach your location using transit

You can add a personalized Metro Transit Trip Planner to your website. It can be customized so users can easily plan transit trips to or from your location. Get more details about the [Trip Planner creation tool](#).

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Meet the new executive director of Downtown Minneapolis TMO

Dan MacLaughlin has been named the new executive director of the Downtown Minneapolis Transportation Management Organization (TMO).

Teresa Wernecke,
executive director of the



TMO for nearly 18 years, retired on June 30.

MacLaughlin joined the TMO staff in 2006 as outreach manager. Over the past three years, he has started new employer-sponsored transit pass programs at more than 100 organizations. More recently, he has been working with the State of Minnesota's eWorkPlace program to launch six new telework pilot programs in Minneapolis.

"I look forward to continuing my work with businesses and employers in downtown Minneapolis to make the commute less stressful and more enjoyable for everyone," he said.

MacLaughlin can be reached at 612-370-3987 or [here](#).

Congratulations!

[BACK TO TOP](#)
