

DISCOVER CONVENIENT AND RELAXING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS



HOW MANY OPTIONS DO I HAVE TO GET FROM POINT A TO POINT B IF I DON'T WANT TO DRIVE?

So. Many. Options. We live in a time when people have dozens of different ways to get around. Below are some of the main groups of travel options and a few examples for each.

HOW CAN I COMMUTE AND STILL HAVE TIME TO RELAX WITH FRIENDS?

Pooled trips are a great way to share rides with friends or coworkers. Carpools are as easy as getting two or more people together who are going to the same place, be that work, a park, or a restaurant. If several people are going the same way, vanpools make terrific options and are popular for mid- to long-distance commutes.

Benefits of Pooled Trips:

- High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane access
- Reserved parking spots
- Reduced carbon footprint
- Chance to nap on the way to work

Ride-Matching Services:

Many ridesharing platforms offer ride-matching services such as Liftango and King County, making it easy for people with similar travel needs to find one another, and some platforms even offer financial incentives for sharing rides.

Employer Support:

Employers frequently provide vans for vanpools when there is sufficient ridership and offer carpool programs using technology-driven platforms to help employees commute to and from work.

WHAT MAKES BUSES AND PUBLIC TRANSIT SO AWESOME?

Take a bus! And all the other wonderful forms of **public transportation** that increase accessibility, sustainability, and the overall quality of life for countless people. While most people are familiar with fixed-route bus services, that is only one of the options buses offer. Express buses run on many of the same routes but offer faster and more direct service (i.e., fewer stops) for riders who need to travel longer distances. Bus rapid transit (BRT) are high-capacity buses that often use dedicated bus lanes, priority traffic signaling, and limited stops to emulate rail transit while maintaining the flexibility of where a bus can go – it is like the bullet train of buses! Paratransit is a specialized, door-to-door service designed to accommodate individuals with disabilities who may not be able or comfortable using fixed-route public transportation.

SO, THERE ARE NO TRAINS?

Oh, **public transportation** has plenty of rail options, too! These include streetcars, light rail (LRT), subways, and commuter rail (CRT). Streetcars generally operate much like buses. LRTs are faster and can carry more people than streetcars, making them a good option for urban and suburban areas. Subways are faster and larger than LRTs and are often underground, separating them from other forms of traffic. This makes subways an excellent option in densely populated urban areas. CRTs are the size of full trains and cater to long-distance commuters traveling between distant areas and urban centers.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR ME IF I WANT TO COMBINE EXERCISE WITH TRAVEL?

Active transportation is a wonderful option. The following modes of transportation involve physical activity:

Biking

Rollerblading

Walking

Scooters

Bikeshare

Running

Cities and counties are expanding bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure for safer, convenient travel. Bike shares, available as docked (rented from and returned to specific stations) or dockless (picked up and left almost anywhere), enhance convenience for short trips and connecting to other transportation modes.

Need to Get to Your Ride? Check Out These Cool Micro-Mobility Options!

In addition to bikes, various micro-mobility devices like e-bikes, scooters, hoverboards, and skateboards are great for short trips and connecting to other transportation modes. Bike and e-scooter shares are popular in cities, and folding bicycles offer added convenience.

I'M EXHAUSTED FROM ALL THESE OPTIONS. WHAT IF I JUST WANT TO STAY HOME?

Meet your new best friend: **avoided trips**. Telework, with tools like Zoom and Microsoft Teams, allows digital connectivity and skips physical commutes. For in-person jobs, compressed workweeks offer flexible schedules. Additionally, delivery services consolidate errands into fewer trips, reducing overall travel.

The list above should not be considered exhaustive, and people are often finding new and inventive ways to travel. However, the information above captures the way most non-drive-alone trips are made through our transportation network.