THE CTR LAW

In 1991, the Washington State Legislature passed the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Law. It requires employers to work with employees to reduce the number and length of drive alone commute trips. The CTR Law is part of the Washington Clean Air Act and a key component of the State’s Climate Action Plan.

What is the purpose?

- To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants
- To reduce traffic congestion
- To reduce energy consumption

How does it help businesses?

- Allows addings employees without increasing traffic congestion
- Providing commute options contributes to employee satisfaction and retention
- Tax incentives and credits are available for providing transportation benefits

Who is required to participate?

Employers who have 100+ employees at a single worksite who:

- Arrive between 6-9AM, 2+ weekdays for 12 continuous months of the year
- Full-time: scheduled 35+ hours per week
Clean air facts

Personal transportation, including commuting, is responsible for the majority of air pollution in the Puget Sound area. Transportation emissions from employees commuting to work are business’ second highest energy use after electricity. In Washington state, transportation accounts for nearly 45% of GHG emissions.

2006 Sources of Air Pollution in Puget Sound Area

- **ON-ROAD MOBILE** (CARS, TRUCKS & BUSES) - 68%
- **NON-ROAD MOBILE** (SHIPS, TRAINS, PLANES, ETC.) - 21%
- **AREA SOURCES** (WOOD STOVES, FIREPLACES, GAS STATIONS, SPRAY PAINTING, ETC.) - 10%
- **POINT SOURCES** (BUSINESS & INDUSTRY) - 1%
THE CTR LAW CHECKLIST

☐ Appoint and maintain an individual to act as an Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC).

☐ Develop and promote a program that helps employees reduce drive-alone commute trips.

☐ Submit a transportation program report for review and approval every two years.

☐ Conduct a commuter survey to measure employees’ commute habits every two years.

☐ Exercise a good faith effort by collaborating with the local jurisdiction in its administration and implementation of the law.

*Specific requirements for work sites located in the Seattle city limits are described in greater detail on the Seattle CTR Program Requirements document.

Resources

- Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 25.02
- WA State Commute Trip Reduction Law