The fact of the matter is not every employee will be able to take transit to work. For employees who lack direct or frequent transit service, vanpool, vanshare, or a company shuttle may be a great option. If your company offers ORCA Business Passport the deal is even better, since the ORCA card will cover a vanpool or vanshare fare!

**What is Vanpool?**

An official carpool service run by King County Metro that goes from employees’ homes to work. Official Vanpools must have a driver, backup driver, and bookkeeper. Vans, insurance and gas are provided. If your company is enrolled in ORCA Passport, Vanpools are likely paid for and covered by Passport.

**What is Vanshare?**

An official carpooling service run by King County Metro that goes from transit hubs to work. Official Vanshares must have a driver, backup driver, and bookkeeper. Vans, insurance, and gas are provided. If your company is enrolled in ORCA Passport, Vanshares are likely paid for and covered by Passport.

**What are company shuttles?**

Private busses and vans contracted by employers to get employees to and from the worksite. These shuttles offer route flexibility and connections that may not be offered by Vanpool/Vanshare. Because these are privately run companies, ORCA cards do not work on company shuttles.

**Company Example**

Amazon has quickly become the undisputed king of Vanpools/Vanshares. With dozens of vans arriving to its South Lake Union campus every day. By promoting rideshareonline.com, and providing priority parking for vanpools and vanshares, employees who may not have easy transit access to South Lake Union are now reducing their impact on the environment and reducing congestion across the Puget Sound!
VANPOOL / VANSHARE / COMPANY SHUTTLE CHECKLIST

☐ Sign up for an account at www.rideshareonline.com and search for existing Vanpools/Vanshares that fit your schedule.

☐ If an existing route doesn’t work, ask co-workers and neighbors about starting a new Vanpool/Vanshare.

☐ Consider setting up an internal notification and new vanpool tracking system, making it easier for co-workers to find one another and build worksite-specific vanpools.

☐ Share Commute Seattle’s Carpooling Guide, which provides questions and considerations to answer to ensure your new vanpools are successful.

Resources

- Rideshare Online
- King County Metro Vanpool Riders Wanted
- King County Metro Vanshare Riders Wanted
- Shuttle Express
- MTR Western
- Commute Seattle’s Carpooling Guide