

# 2006 Association for Commuter Transportation International Conference: A Special Deal for BWC Network Members!

he Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) is a longtime ally of Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> and commuter choice programs in general. ACT has always provided a forum for Best Workplaces for Commuters to get the word out to its membership, who comprise a large part of our target audience. Now, ACT is making a special offer to members of the BWC Network: a discounted registration fee for its 2006 International Conference in Boston, August 27-30. This is the "go-to" conference for professionals who specialize in commute options and solutions, with many exciting workshops and opportunities to network. Then, after the conference, enjoy three months' membership in ACT at no additional cost.

Perks of your ACT membership include a copy of the quarterly TDM Review, as well as the Members-Only portion of the ACT Web site, which contains a membership directory, legislative updates, a job board, and more.

ACT is offering BWC Network members \$100 off the conference registration rate (normally \$600). To get this special deal, you must **register by July 21, 2006**. For information on how to register for the 2006 ACT International Conference, click here:

< tmi.cob.fsu.edu/act/conf06/RegistrationContents.pdf >

Be sure to include the code "BWC" on the registration form to get the special rate! You will get a distinctive ribbon when you arrive at the registration desk, distinguishing you as a BWC Network member, too!



Attending the ACT 2006 International Conference is a great opportunity to network with people who share many of the same goals you are striving for, and are facing the same challenges as you encounter. Moreover, if you have qualified for the 2006 Race to Excellence, you will be invited to come up on stage to accept your fabulous recognition awards while you're there! And you will continue reaping benefits after you get home through your trial membership in ACT.

For more information on ACT, visit < www.actweb.org >.

#### **Dates to Remember:**

August 1 Application deadline for Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 List of Companies

< www.bwc.gov/campaign/f500-exclusive.htm >

August 27-30 2006 Association for Commuter Transportation International Conference. Sponsored in part by Best

Workplaces for Commuters, this four-day conference in Boston highlights such topics as telework, parking management, and marketing, as well as offering professional development courses and workshops. For more information: < tmi.cob.fsu.edu/act/conf06/RegistrationContents.pdf >

August 29 2006 Race to Excellence Awards Ceremony Awards will be presented at the

Association for Commuter Transportation International Conference (see above)

October Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 List of Companies

January February March

April May June

July August September

October November December

# The Best Workplaces for Commuters 2001-2005 Progress Report: Ready to Download!

We've got the green light to post our 2001-2005 Progress Report, "Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> - Demonstrating Excellence in Commuting Options That Save Energy, Money, and the Environment" on the < www.bwc.gov > Web site. Take a look – it's a really great summary of the context of the program, program description, results through 2005, and some illustrative case histories in an appealing and succinct format. You may find some facts and figures that are useful to you when discussing the real results of commuter benefits programs like Best Workplaces for Commuters.

#### **Fun Facts**

- Americans now drive nearly 3 trillion miles per year, and that rate grows by about 2 percent each year. O.K., statisticians and astronomy buffs how many trips to Pluto and back could you make if your space ship or flying transit bus) were to travel this distance? (Answer at bottom of last page.)
- You might have thought this distinction would belong to some town blessed with good cycling weather year-round, but no -Minneapolis is the #1 ranked city in the nation for percentage of bicycle commuters, and the downtown area boasts one of the
  most comprehensive bicycle lane systems of any city. Kinda makes you wonder what's holding them back in Honolulu...
- As of June 1, 2006, over 3.1 million commuters are able to take advantage of the excellent commuter benefits offered by Best Workplaces for Commuters employers and commuter districts.
- The 20 commuter districts nationwide having achieved the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation are currently responsible for saving 31 million gallons of gasoline per year.

#### **Welcome to Our New Network Members!**

### Thank you all for working diligently to help us promote Best Workplaces for Commuters

Organization Name	Member Name	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)	Linda Dowlen	Denver	СО
Naropa University	Sam Mason	Boulder	СО
People's Bank	Marisol Rodriguez	Bridgeport	СТ
New Jersey State DOT	Khalid Shaikh	Trenton	NJ



## Spotlight On...

### Lyndi Richards boosts vanpooling and Best Workplaces for Commuters at the Harford County TMA

Lyndi, who works for Harford Commuter Assistance in Maryland, organized an event on vanpooling for the Harford County Transportation Management Association on May 23. She invited Corey Krejcik, Project Manager from the well-regarded vanpool company VPSI to give a presentation about vanpooling, which incorporated mention of Best Workplaces for Commuters (of course!). She promoted the event in multiple publications, and it was mentioned in **The Baltimore Sun**. The event attracted staff from the County Department of Public Works, the Department of Transit & Zoning, the local transit authority, Susquehanna Workforce, Rite Aid Corporation, and others. Lyndi is following up with attendees on next steps.

Thanks to Lyndi for making those opportunities to get out the good word on alternatives to driving alone and, of course, Best Workplaces for Commuters!

**CORRECTION:** In the interest of journalistic integrity, we must tell you that the two ladies pictured by the commuter van sporting the Best Workplaces for Commuters magnetic sign in the May *BWC Network News* are, in actuality, **Dawn Carey**, Outreach Coordinator from Upper Valley Rideshare, and **Sandy W.**, commuter bus driver for Advance Transit, Inc. of Wilder, VT. Our apologies!



#### Answer to Fun Facts Question:

Pluto's average distance from the Sun (it has an eccentric orbit) is 3.5 billion miles. So, your flying transit bus could make the round trip from the Sun to Pluto and back well over 400 times if it logged the current total number of miles Americans travel this year. (This includes some detours to pick up deli sandwiches on Earth and engage in sight-seeing along the way.) Unfortunately, the crew would probably have expired of old age long before making the last trip.



