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Try Parking It E-Blast

February/March 2015

Keep that Vehicle Parked. Try an Alternative.

Of all the alternative commutes available to North Texans, carpooling may be one of the simplest to embrace. It's not just the simplicity that's getting all the attention, the savings can have a big impact on your life too. Although gas prices are at the lowest they've been in years, those who share a ride to work can still save money on fuel as well as vehicle maintenance costs. Park and Ride (PNR) have been developed for this specific purpose and are located strategically around North Texas. The purpose of these lots is to create a location point for carpoolers and vanpoolers to meet and ride together. The most recent PNR lot just opened on Interstate Highway (IH) 30 and Beltline Road in Grand Prairie and offers 328 parking spaces. Meet a friend or co-worker at one of the [many PNR lots](#) throughout the region and share the ride, just don't forget to log your commute at [TryParkingIt.com](#). Below you can find tips for successful carpooling.



- Get to Know Your Carpoolers
- Assign Responsibilities
- Set Some Rules
- Establish a Schedule
- Maintain Your Vehicle
- Determine Costs
- Establish One Purpose
- Show Respect
- Start Carpooling
- Reap the Benefits





Need more information? [This document](#) breaks down these carpooling tips into more detail.

Carpooling not an option for you? How about biking to work? The benefits are numerous and can directly impact the community in which you live. Every person biking to work takes another car off the road and reduces regional traffic congestion. Consider the positive impact on air quality as well. Bikes emit nothing and can help our region meet air quality standards. Ten counties are currently in nonattainment for the pollutant ozone according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Another significant benefit is your health. Biking provides a great way to get in your morning workout. So, isn't it time to dust off the bike and head out to work? After all, buses and light-rail can accommodate your two-wheeled machine to make it easy to travel the region. DART even offers services like bike lids. The lids are a simple way to keep your bike safe when traveling to a nearby rail station and parking your bike. Visit the [DART website](#) for tips on using a bike lid and available locations. If you're all set and ready to change-up your commute, visit the NCTCOG website for [10 steps to riding your bike](#) to work.

Fort Worth Bike Sharing

March is a time when thoughts turn to spring and outdoor activities that can be enjoyed during warmer weather. Bicycling is a popular way to exercise or travel from place to place, whether for work or pleasure. Those who live, work, or play in Fort Worth do not even have to own a bicycle to enjoy conveniently getting around on two wheels. Fort Worth Bike Sharing has 35 stations throughout the city where people can check out a bicycle for a small fee and enjoy what the city has to offer. The organization is offering discounts on 24-hour memberships for the next several weeks. Stop by any of its sharing stations before May 1, and enter promo code 030115 to receive 50 percent off the cost of a 24-hour membership (regularly \$8). [Overtime fees](#) may apply. For information, visit www.fortworthbikesharing.com.

Social Media Campaign

Our #mydfwcommute social media campaign may have ended but we still want to hear from you. Let us know why biking or carpooling to work is the best commute option for you. Send an email with your response to transinfo@nctcog.org and we'll randomly pick five individuals to receive Try Parking It goodies in the mail.

Try Parking It E-Blast Update

The Try Parking It E-Blast will be moving to an every other month format starting with this issue. We look forward to providing you with tips on alternative commutes as well as events that are all accessible via public transportation. Future issues will be published in May, July, September, November, January, and March.

Upcoming Events

The vast public transportation network in North Texas allows residents to get almost anywhere without having to drive a car. Below you'll find events that are all accessible via public transportation.

DART

Now - April 12

Dallas Blooms, the largest floral festival in the Southwest, returns to the Dallas Arboretum. This year's theme plays homage to the beloved state: *Dallas Blooms: Deep in the Hearts of Texans*. Presented by Bank of America, this year's Texas-sized extravaganza features more than 500,000 spring blooming bulbs along with life-size Texas themed topiaries, entertainment, food and special activities celebrating the state. Gracing the garden are life-size topiaries featuring the great symbols of Texas including two longhorns, two horses and the Texas Star - the perfect backdrops for photos and videos. Information: www.dallasarboretum.org. Available via DART Bus Route 60 to Garland @ Lakeland.

March 25-29

The 2015 DFW Auto Show will run March 25-29 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center (formerly the Dallas Convention Center). One of the most anticipated annual events in the Metroplex, the DFW Auto Show is the ideal opportunity for consumers to compare styling and pricing of every major line make under one roof in just a few hours. The DFW Auto Show was conceived in 1982, and now boasts more than half a million square feet of new cars, trucks, and SUVs. Information: www.dfwautoshow.com. Available via DART Rail Red Line or Blue Line to Convention Center Station.

April 9 - 19

The 9th Annual Dallas International Film Festival is presented by AutoNation and is a production of the Dallas Film Society. The film festival mission is to encourage this universal art form by bringing to Dallas quality independent films from around the world and by promoting local filmmakers on an international stage. In 2015, the films of Germany will be celebrated with a showcase of films that investigates the complex facets of that country's cinematic heritage. Information: diff2015.dallasfilm.org. Available via DART Rail Red Line, Blue Line or Orange Line to Mockingbird Station; DART Rail Red Line, Blue Line, Green Line or Orange Line to Pearl/Arts District Station to Annette Strauss Square; DART Rail Red Line,

Blue Line, Green Line or Orange Line to Akard Station, then a short walk north on Field Street to the Perot Museum.

DCTA

First Friday of Every Month

First Friday Denton is on the first Friday of every month, and is significant because that is the day when artists and artisans in the business district surrounding the Denton County Historic Courthouse on the Square open their doors for visitors and patrons. Browse and perhaps buy a unique piece of art, jewelry or a myriad of other art objects. First Friday also offers patrons a chance to visit their favorite restaurants and businesses that have extended First Friday hours, so come to First Friday ready for music, art, books, coffee and great original foods. Information: www.firstfridaydenton.com. Available via DART Rail Green Line to Trinity Mills Station, then DCTA A-train to Downtown Denton Transit Center. Note: Last A-train service from Downtown Denton Transit Center to Trinity Mills Station is 11:15 pm on Fridays.

The T

Now - April 26

What's Up, Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones is a new traveling exhibition at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. It reveals the creative genius behind some of the most enduringly popular cartoons and animated films of all time. The exhibition is a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Chuck Jones Center for Creativity, and the Museum of the Moving Image. *What's Up, Doc?* examines Jones' development as a filmmaker and visual artist and showcases many of his most significant films, which come to life on screens throughout the exhibition. Chuck Jones brought to animation an unparalleled talent for comic invention and a flair for creating animated characters with distinctive and often wildly eccentric personalities. Information: www.fortworthmuseum.org. Available via Trinity Railway Express (TRE) to Fort Worth ITC Station, then the T's bus route 2, 7 or 57.

Now - May 24

The Collection of Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass is a selection of paintings and sculptures amassed by two pillars of Texas philanthropy and business. From this collection of Impressionist to post-World War II art, 37 works of painting and sculpture will be on view, including an impressive pair of paintings by Van Gogh - *Street in Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer*, 1888, and *Enclosed Field with Plowman*, 1889 - and a major still life by Picasso, *Fruit Dish, Bottle, and Guitar*, 1923. The exhibit will be on view in the Renzo Piano Pavilion at the Kimbell Art Museum. Admission is free to this special exhibition. Information: www.kimbellart.org. Available Via Trinity Railway Express (TRE) to Fort Worth ITC Station,

then the T's bus route 2, 7 or 57.



Downtown Fort Worth

