

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System®

Get More Points with CommuteInfo's Help

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) is the region's forum for collaboration, planning and public decision-making. As the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for a ten-county region in Southwestern PA, SPC is responsible for regional transportation planning and programming.

SPC coordinates and promotes regional ridesharing initiatives through its CommuteInfo Program. The initiatives include: ridematching services, operation and management of the region's vanpool, carpool and bikepool programs; an emergency ride home service; marketing/education and outreach to regional commuters and employers; technical support; and, serving as a regional clearinghouse for information about commuting alternatives.

LEED® 4.0 for Existing Buildings includes points for Alternative Transportation as part of the "Location and Transportation Credit" category. As the regional ridesharing program, CommuteInfo staff can provide technical assistance to business owners and real estate developers as they work to achieve the following points:



LOCATION AND TRANSPORTATION CREDIT*

Alternative Transportation

This credit applies to:

- Existing Buildings (1-15 points)
- Schools (1-15 points)
- Retail (1-15 points)
- Data Centers (1-15 points)
- Hospitality (1-15 points)
- Warehouses and Distribution Centers (1-15 points)
- Multifamily (1-15 points)

INTENT – To reduce pollution and land development effects from automobile use for transportation.

*copied from the LEED 4.0 for Existing Buildings Reference Guide

REQUIREMENTS

Existing buildings, schools, retail, data centers, hospitality, warehouses and distribution centers, multifamily.

ESTABLISHMENT

None.

PERFORMANCE

OPTION 1. TRANSPORTATION SURVEY (1 POINT)

Conduct a survey of building occupants on their transportation patterns. Regular building occupants must be surveyed. Visitors must be surveyed if either the typical peak or daily average is greater than the number of regular building occupants. Conduct a transportation survey at least once every five years.

OPTION 2. ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION RATE (3–15 POINTS)

Meet the requirements of Option 1.

Demonstrate an alternative transportation rate in accordance with Table 1. Alternative transportation strategies that contribute to this reduction include human-powered conveyances (e.g. walking or biking), public transit, telecommuting, informal transit options, compressed workweeks, carpools and green vehicles.

Calculations are performed relative to a baseline case that assumes all regular occupants commute alone in conventional automobiles. The calculations must account for seasonal variations in the use of alternative commuting methods and should indicate the distribution of commuting trips using each type of alternative transportation strategy.

TABLE 1. Points for alternative transportation rate

Alternative transportation rate	Points
10%	3
15%	4
20%	5
25%	6
30%	7
35%	8
40%	9
45%	10
50%	11
55%	12
60%	13
65%	14
70%	15

Existing buildings, schools, retail, data centers, hospitality, warehouses and distribution centers.

Operating a customer-focused full-service commuting options resource center, running the region's vanpool and carpool programs, and facilitating the forum for coordinating regional ridesharing efforts—SPC's CommuteInfo Program is the regional one stop shop for ridesharing services.

The CommuteInfo program is designed to increase the number of people who travel to work or school by riding transit, carpooling, vanpooling or bikepooling.

The CommuteInfo program provides resources and information to assist individuals traveling to work or school and helps regional employers learn more about commuting options.

For LEED 4.0 applicants, the CommuteInfo program can be your "resource advisor" when working on the Alternative Transportation points. Let our experience help you as you work to increase the number of people travelling to your location using alternative transportation modes.

OPTION 3. COMPREHENSIVE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (2 POINTS)

Meet the requirements of Option 1.

Implement an alternative transportation program to reduce the conventional travel rates of building occupants. Include at least one element from each of the following three categories:

Education strategies

- new-hire orientation
- employee newsletter, flyer, announcements, memos, letters
- carpool matching website

Basic support strategies

- employer carpool events
- guaranteed return trip
- preferential parking for informal transit participants
- flextime schedule
- ride-matching service

Direct strategies

- telecommuting
- compressed workweek schedule
- transit subsidy
- introduction of a parking fee
- bicycle program
- parking cash-out
- employee clean vehicle purchase program
- carpool program

The CommuteInfo program can help!

Call us to find out how we can get you:

- Readymade materials for new-hire orientations and employee recruitment materials
- Articles & content for newsletters, intranets
- A carpooling and ridematching service, that is free and available throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania
- Tabling opportunities to promote commuting options
- Emergency Ride Home services (guaranteed return trip)
- Access to regional and national best practices
- Connections to other regional transportation providers

Call today
1-888-819-6110