



"A Customer First Company"

June 2017

Welcome to the June 2017 Edition of "On the Move"

Future Park and Ride Lots – Let Your Voice be Heard

Recently Kendell Marion sent out an email urging riders to contact their state representatives to support the purchase of land for a park and ride lot north of I-295.



Photo Source: http://farm9.staticflickr.com/8424/7736296530_7aaffecfd_z.jpg

He is encouraging riders to be proactive in their attempts to inform decision makers of the need of additional lots, the challenges commuters face due to the overcrowding and lack of existing lots, and the benefits that commuters bring to the area. Here is a copy of a sample letter you can send to your representative.

Senator,

I wanted to take an opportunity to write to you to request you propose a bill ending the study phase and beginning the process of purchasing real estate in order to build a park and ride north of the I95/I295 interchange.

There are several hundred people that I know of in the Richmond metropolitan area

who commute north of Richmond (Washington, DC and the greater metropolitan area) on a daily basis who either car pool or ride a van pool.

Initially most vans parked at the Wal-Mart at the intersection of Brook Road and Parham Road. Several years ago, Wal-Mart informed the commuters that they could no longer park in their parking lot.

When this occurred, most vans moved to the Atlee-Elmont Home Depot Parking lot (10233 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland VA 23005). In May of this year we were asked to move the vans parking from the Home Depot parking lot to another portion of that same lot further from Home Depot, but closer to other businesses. After less than a month on June 1 the vans were directed to move to a new portion of the same parking lot this time closer to Green Top. In all these cases the vans parked as far from the businesses as possible as not to interfere with the stores or their customers. Despite our attempt not to interfere, the fact is there are so many commuters in vanpools and carpools that it is impossible not to be noticed. As the final straw, we received notification that starting June 23 that the commuters could not park anywhere in the parking lot that services both Green Top and Home Depot. The reality is we, the commuters, have no recourse with the businesses because it is their private land. We also do not have anywhere else left to park that is convenient since riders come from all around the greater Richmond area to commute North on I95. The closest commuter lot is on Mechanicsville Turnpike and that lot is already full and cannot possibly handle another 200 plus commuters.

Ride Finders is trying to assist by providing local business names and address with parking lots that may be willing to allow us to park in their lots. But, history has shown that this is only a temporary measure since there are so many commuters we overwhelm a business' parking lot. A permanent solution



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needs to be found. John O’Keeffe from Ride Finders mentioned there have been studies for a commuter lot in the area we are talking about. I think the time for studies is long past. It is time to act and build a commuter lot. Based on the interactions with many of the 200+ commuters in the Home Depot lot, the preference is a lot North of the I95/I295 interchange and south of Exit 92 (US-54) as a vast majority of the vans and carpools are heading to either the greater Washington DC area or, Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren, Indian Head or Naval Air Station Patuxent River.

These vans and carpools make it possible and economically feasible for several hundred voters to commute to work while providing benefits to the state of reducing road wear, and congestion that would otherwise be as a result of an additional several hundred vehicles on the road each day.

Despite having several hundred people commuting daily north of Richmond, there is no park and rides supporting these commuters which is leading to issues that is making it difficult and possibly even impossible to employ carpools and vans as a means of commuting to work.

Please consider proposing to end the study phase and begin the process of purchasing real estate in order to start building a park and ride north of the I95/I295 interchange. Before the vanpools and carpools are forced to dissolve resulting in hundreds of more cars on the roads commuting through Northern Virginia on the already overcrowded highways.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

If you are unaware of your state representative you can use to following website to look them up:
<http://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov>

How to Keep Your Parked Car Safe

Here are a couple of steps you can take to secure your car while it is parked and to deter criminals from breaking in.

1. Set Your Car Alarm & Lock Doors
2. Park Where there is Light
3. Use a Steering Wheel Lock
4. Take Your Valuables with You
5. Use Your Emergency Brake

Source: <https://ohmyapt.apartmentratings.com/5-tips-to-keep-your-car-safe-when-parking-on-the-street.html>

K&K Connections June Birthdays

We would like to wish everyone born in June a very special HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dwayne Taylor	Isaiah Collins
Gwendolyn Cody-Davis	James Daniel
Fredreca Thompson	Franklin Dunn
Srinivasa Tupurani	Marlon Grant
Danielle Graves	Susan Greer
Thomas Hartfield	Michael Lattin
Matthew Hrabak	Manny Siddiqui
Andrew Jackson	Deborah Jones
Tiffany Owens	Linda Williams
Derrick Wafford	Claudia Brown

Welcome to K&K Connections

We would like to say a BIG welcome to all our new riders. We are so privileged that you have decided to make K&K your vanpool company of choice.

Visit us at: www.ridek2k.com
 Or Contact us at: info@ridek2k.com
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