



## Backgrounder

### *The Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> Coalition*

The Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> Coalition is composed of leading government and business organizations in the Bay Area working to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, cut global warming emissions, and make commuting less stressful and costly for employers and employees. Members include Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Bay Area Council, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Northern California Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation, Northern California Human Resources Association, RIDES for Bay Area Commuters, Inc., Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



#### **Bay Area Air Quality Management District**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) was the state's first regional agency dealing with air pollution, and encompasses all nine Bay Area counties. The District's 21-member Board of Directors has the authority to develop and enforce regulations for controlling air pollution within its jurisdiction. <[www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)>



#### **Bay Area Council**

The Bay Area Council is a coalition of more than 275 major employers from throughout the region that focuses on promoting progressive regional public policy. For the last half century, the Bay Area Council has aggressively addressed the challenges that affect the economic well-being and quality of life in the nine-county Bay Area. <[www.bayareacouncil.org](http://www.bayareacouncil.org)>



#### **Metropolitan Transportation Commission**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the transportation planning, coordinating, and financing agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. It is responsible for the Regional Transportation Plan, a comprehensive blueprint for developing mass transit, highway, airport, seaport, railroad, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. <[www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)>



#### **Northern California Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation**

The Association of Commuter Transportation is a membership organization representing professionals in all levels of government, private corporations, universities, transportation management agencies, and other nonprofit organizations that promote alternative commute options. The Northern California Chapter includes members from the San Francisco Bay Area.



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RIDES for Bay Area Commuters • Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



NORTHERN  
CALIFORNIA  
CHAPTER

## Northern California Human Resources Association

The Northern California Human Resources Association (NCHRA) is a membership association for human resources professionals working and living throughout Northern California. As the Bay Area's leading HR resource for continuing professional education, NCHRA presents frequent professional development seminars, workshops, certification study courses, and an annual conference and trade show. <[www.nchra.org](http://www.nchra.org)>



## RIDES for Bay Area Commuters, Inc.

RIDES for Bay Area Commuters, Inc. is a private, nonprofit corporation funded by MTC, BAAQMD, and county congestion management agencies. RIDES helps commuters find and use alternatives to driving alone—offering consultations, carpool and vanpool referrals, and assistance with public transit, telecommuting, diamond lanes, and other transportation alternatives. <[www.rides.org](http://www.rides.org)>



## Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group

The Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group (SVMG) is a business organization with a mission to address major public policy issues affecting the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley. Currently, SVMG addresses the following five core issues: affordable housing, comprehensive transportation, reliable energy, quality education, and a sustainable environment. <[www.svmg.org](http://www.svmg.org)>



## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Through the Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup>, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognizes employers nationwide that offer outstanding commuter benefits. Participating organizations achieve a *National Standard of Excellence* that includes offering employees commuter benefits such as employer-provided transit passes, vanpool subsidies, carpool matching, bike lockers, compressed work schedules, or onsite day care. Supporters of the Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> are working together with EPA to promote commuter benefits.

<[www.bestworkplacesforcommuters.gov](http://www.bestworkplacesforcommuters.gov)> or <[www.bwc.gov](http://www.bwc.gov)>



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