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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. 09-149

RELATING TO MANAGEMENT OF THE EMPLOYEE COMMUTER PROGRAM;
AMENDING CHAPTERS 3.09 AND 3.98 SCC

BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.015, adopted by Ordinance No. 97-101 on December 17, 1997, is amended to read:

3.09.015 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) "Carpool" means a group of two or more county employees who share a private vehicle for commuting to and from work. (~~Each participating employee must ride with their carpooling group at least three working days per week (two days per week for employees working four 10-hour days per week).~~)

(2) (~~"Mixed carpool" means a group consisting of one or more Snohomish County employees who commute to and from work with one or more employees from other employers.~~)

(3)) "Vanpool" means a group of 3 or more county employees who commute to and from work in a van provided by a public transit agency or the county. (~~Each participating employee must ride with their vanpooling group at least three working days per week (two days per week for employees working four 10-hour days per week).~~)

(4) ~~"Participating employee" means an employee who has completed a current registration form required by SCC 3.09.070 indicating that they choose to participate in the employee commuter program, who travels to and from work by carpool, vanpool, public transit, walking or bicycling, and whose participation has been authorized by the transportation coordinator based on the eligibility requirements and commuter policies contained in or authorized by this chapter.~~

(5)) (3) "Employee festival parking" means employee parking where the employee has the right to park within a designated parking area but does not have a right to a specific parking stall.

1 Section 2. Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.030, adopted by Ordinance
2 No. 97-101 on December 17, 1997, is amended to read:

3
4 **3.09.030 Executive authorized to manage parking facilities.**

5
6 (1) The executive shall manage all county owned or leased parking
7 facilities. This authority includes but is not limited to: designation of areas for
8 types of parking, including but not limited to visitor parking, departmental cars,
9 employee assigned parking, employee festival parking, employee carpool and
10 vanpool parking, and parking for disabled persons.

11 (2) The executive shall adopt written policies which address the following:

12 (a) The assignment of parking;

13 (b) The use of all parking stalls;

14 (c) Conduct of persons using the parking facilities;

15 (d) Improper parking;

16 (e) Other matters necessary for the safe, efficient, or orderly
17 operation of the parking facilities.

18 (3) The executive shall ~~((establish))~~ propose for council approval by
19 motion a schedule of fees for parking that is consistent with the requirements of
20 SCC 3.98.040 ~~((PROVIDED that all such fees shall be approved by the council~~
21 ~~by motion))~~.

22 ~~((4) The executive shall develop and adopt policies regarding the~~
23 ~~employee commuter program established by this chapter.))~~

24
25 Section 3. Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.080, last amended by
26 Ordinance No. 03-146 on December 17, 2003, is amended to read:

27
28 **3.09.080 Employee parking in county-owned parking facilities.**

29
30 ~~((The parking policies adopted pursuant to this chapter by the executive shall~~
31 ~~provide that carpools and vanpools be given priority in parking assignments over~~
32 ~~single-occupant vehicles.))~~ As a condition of use of county parking garages or
33 facilities, the employee to whom parking is assigned shall authorize a monthly
34 payroll deduction for the payment of the parking fee ~~((in accordance with the~~
35 ~~following schedule:~~

36 (1) Single-occupant vehicle: Rate as determined pursuant to SCC
37 3.09.030(3);

38 (2) 2 person carpool: 50 percent of the charge for a single-occupant
39 vehicle;

40 (3) 3 or 4 person carpool: 33 percent of the charge for a single-occupant
41 vehicle;

42 (4) Vanpools as defined in SCC 3.09.015(3) or five or more person
43 carpools: No charge;

44 (5) Mixed carpools, except those mixed carpools which also meet the
45 definition of carpool in SCC 3.09.015(1) and SCC 3.98.020(2), will not be eligible

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1 for the carpool or vanpool rates shown above; However, the executive shall
2 develop parking pricing and/or other policies that encourage carpooling between
3 county employees and employees working for other employers))established
4 pursuant to SCC 3.09.030(3).
5

6 Section 4. Snohomish County Code Section 3.98.010, adopted by Amended
7 Ordinance No. 91-189 on July 3, 1991, is amended to read:
8

9 **3.98.010 Employee commuter program established - Purpose.**
10

11 An employee commuter program is hereby established to encourage employee
12 use of carpools, vanpools, mass transit and other non-single occupant vehicle
13 (SOV) means of transportation. Through this program, it is intended that the
14 ((need for parking facilities for county employees will be reduced as will))
15 county's impact on air pollution, carbon emissions and traffic congestion will be
16 reduced.
17

18 Section 5. Snohomish County Code Section 3.98.020, adopted by Amended
19 Ordinance No. 91-189 on July 3, 1991, is amended to read:
20

21 **3.98.020 Definitions.**
22

23 As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth
24 below unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
25

26 (1) "Carpool" means a group of two or more county employees who share
27 a private vehicle for commuting to and from work. ((Each participating employee
28 must ride with their carpooling group at least three working days per week (two
29 days per week for employees working four 10-hour days per week).))
30

31 (2) "Vanpool" means a group of 3 or more county employees who
32 commute to and from work in a van provided by a public transit agency or the
33 county. ((Each participating employee must ride with their vanpooling group at
34 least three working days per week (two days per week for employees working
35 four 10-hour days per week).))
36

37 (3) "Participating employee" means ((an)) a county employee who has
38 ((completed the registration form required by SCC 3.98.030 indicating that they
39 choose to participate in)) registered for the employee commuter program and
40 who travels to and from work by carpool, vanpool, public transit, walking or
41 bicycling at least 60% of their working days in a month.
42
43
44
45

1 Section 6. Snohomish County Code Section 3.98.030, adopted by Amended
2 Ordinance No. 91-189 on July 3, 1991, is amended to read:

3
4 **3.98.030 Program guidelines and requirements.**
5

6 (1) Participation in the employee commuter program is voluntary and not
7 included within the official duties of any employee of Snohomish county.
8 Employees are not entitled to workers' compensation benefits in the event of an
9 injury while commuting. Employees are not entitled to defense and
10 indemnification at county expense in the event of an accident or mishap while
11 commuting.

12 (2) Any benefits received from participation in the employee commuter
13 program may not be construed as compensation for any duties performed by an
14 employee. Participation in the employee commuter program is beyond the
15 general scope of employee duties.

16 (3) ~~((As a requirement of employment, all employees must register for the
17 program. Registration shall consist of the completion of a simple form explaining
18 the current commute mode of each employee and a statement of whether or not
19 the employee chooses to participate in the employee commuter program.))~~ The
20 county shall not discriminate in any employment practice against any employee
21 choosing not to participate in the program. Employees shall complete revised
22 registration forms when any change in their commute mode status occurs.
23

24 Section 7. Snohomish County Code Section 3.98.040, last amended by
25 Ordinance No. 03-146 on December 17, 2003, is amended to read:

26
27 **3.98.040 ~~((Employee))~~ Carpool and vanpool monthly parking for employees**
28 **in county-owned facilities.**
29

30 ~~((The executive shall determine and designate those parking stalls in county
31 garages and parking facilities that are to be made available for employee use.
32 The executive shall adopt written policies stating the manner of assigning parking
33 to employees and regulating the use of stalls by employees.))~~ The parking
34 policies adopted ~~((by the executive))~~ pursuant to SCC 3.09.030 shall provide that
35 carpools and vanpools be given priority in parking assignments over single-
36 occupant vehicles in county-owned facilities. ~~((Only one stall rented at the
37 carpool or vanpool rate established by SCC 3.09.080 may be assigned to or
38 used by any carpool or vanpool. All employees using county parking facilities
39 shall pay a monthly fee in accordance with the fee schedule established under
40 SCC 3.09.030(3) and SCC 3.09.080. As a condition of use of county parking
41 garages or facilities, the employee to whom parking is assigned shall authorize a
42 monthly payroll deduction for the payment of the parking fee.))~~ Monthly parking
43 fees for carpools and vanpools shall accord with the following schedule:

44 (1) 2 employee carpool: 50 percent of the charge for a single-occupant
45 vehicle;

1 (2) 3 or 4 employee carpool: 33 percent of the charge for a single-
2 occupant vehicle;

3 (3) Vanpools or five or more employee carpools: No charge.
4

5 Section 8. Snohomish County Code Section 3.98.050, adopted by Amended
6 Ordinance No. 91-089 on July 3, 1991, is amended to read:
7

8 **3.98.050 Employee incentives.**
9

10 (1) ~~((Each))~~ Subject to annual appropriation and council approval of a
11 schedule of incentives, each participating employee ((who uses public transit to
12 travel to and from work)) shall receive ((as an incentive,)) a subsidy toward a
13 monthly transit pass or ((ticket book)) other incentive each month ((without
14 charge)).

15 (2) ~~((Participating employees))~~ Each participating employee shall be
16 eligible for ((up to two)) "guaranteed rides home" ((each year. The "guaranteed
17 rides home" shall be used only)) when, due to ((a household)) illness, family
18 emergency ((such as a sudden illness of a family member, the employee must
19 immediately return home during the work day and is, therefore,)) or unanticipated
20 work schedule changes, the employee is unable to return home via carpool,
21 vanpool, transit, bicycle or walking. The "guaranteed ride home" shall be
22 provided by shuttle service, taxi or use of a county motorpool vehicle as
23 determined by the employee's supervisor and the transportation coordinator in
24 accordance with written policies adopted by the executive.

25 (3) The executive shall adopt written policies for the determination of
26 eligibility, limitations on the number of times an employee may use the
27 "guaranteed ride home" program within a specified period, and for the
28 administration of the incentives authorized by this section.
29
30

31 Section 9. The following ordinances or part of ordinances are each repealed:
32

33 (1) Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.060, adopted by Ordinance No.
34 97-101 on December 17, 1997;

35 (3) Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.070, last amended by
36 Ordinance No. 04-113 on November 22, 2004;

37 (4) Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.090, last amended by
38 Ordinance No. 04-113 on November 22, 2004;

39 (4) Snohomish County Code Section 3.09.100, adopted by Ordinance No.
40 97-101 on December 17, 1997.
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1 PASSED this 17th day of Feb., 2009.¹⁰

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3 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
4 Snohomish County, Washington

5 Wade Hart
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7 Chairperson

8
9 ATTEST:

10 Barbara Sitoristi
11
12 Clerk of the Council, *ASST.*

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14 APPROVED

15
16 EMERGENCY

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18 VETOED

19
20 DATE: 2/24/10 MARK SOINE
21 Deputy Executive

22
23 for County Executive

24
25 ATTEST:

26 Cora E. Palmer
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28
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30 Approved as to form only:

31 John J. Blum
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33 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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