



THANK YOU! ESSENTIAL WORKERS CAN QUALIFY FOR COMMUTE INCENTIVES

Many employees are working from home and barely see more than 10 people a week outside of their masked trek to the grocery store or around their neighborhood. But many of our neighbors still travel to work each day. Many are essential workers, ranging from grocery clerks to hospital and daycare workers. According to Share the Ride NC (STRNC.org) – a free service that promotes sustainable commutes – 36,943 trips were tracked in 2020 using travel modes other than driving alone or teleworking in the Triangle.

These commuters – the lifeblood of the community – are transit riders, walkers, bike commuters and those sharing a ride in a vanpool or carpool who tracked trips in 2020 to get to work. Having registered with STRNC.org, they are eligible for the FREE Emergency Ride Home program. So if they have an unexpected emergency or unscheduled overtime and need a ride home, GoTriangle will arrange a taxi to get them there safely. They are also eligible to participate in the GoPerks incentive program and enter monthly drawings to win gift cards from local small businesses.

Beyond the GoPerks incentives, those who register with STRNC can also easily calculate the impact of their smart commutes on their financial savings and in removing greenhouse gases from our environment. Those who chose not to drive alone to their job sites combined to save \$72,000 and improve air quality by reducing emissions by more than 140 tons of greenhouse gases – that’s why we call it smart commuting.

With 2020 behind us, we also can easily see the air quality and environmental impacts of teleworkers, who accounted for about 70 percent of GoPerks participation in 2020 and removed 358 tons of greenhouse gases in 2020.

Thank you to everyone who has continued to serve the community – especially our essential workers. We hope that you stay healthy and will continue to participate in GoTriangle’s GoPerks incentive program as a small reward to yourself. And although our own coworkers at GoTriangle and other transit agencies across the Triangle can’t participate in GoPerks, thank you to our bus operations teams for assisting these workers in getting to their jobs and home again.