King County Department of Transportation
Metro Transit

Seeks Proposals from Employers for

JobSeeker Employer Van Demonstration Programs

The Federal Transit Administration recently awarded the Puget Sound region a grant from the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program in the amount of $1.9 million. King County Metro received $740,500 from this grant to provide transportation for low-income and welfare populations. The grant provides support for employer van demonstration programs, as well as a van program for select community agencies, a ridematch program, a regional transit information program, and program evaluation.

JobSeeker Employer Van Demonstration Objective

The primary objective of the JobSeeker Employer Van Demonstration Program is to provide transportation for low-income and welfare clients who are entering the workforce.

Metro is interested in innovative partnership arrangements with employers to provide van transportation that addresses barriers that regular public transportation cannot. The program is intended to fill gaps in existing transportation services and programs. These partnerships should support sustained employment for these clients.

Programs may be designed to provide clients with transportation for traditional commute trips, shift work, and childcare. The program may include innovative approaches such as incentives for drivers to form and drive vanpools that include employees from low-income and welfare backgrounds. The program may also pay for expenses such as fuel, maintenance, or lease costs of operating a van program that includes these new employees

Partnerships between employers, transportation management associations, cities, social service agencies, housing authorities and/or community-based organizations are encouraged.

Funding Partnership

Metro will provide 50 percent of the cost of the van transportation demonstration. Employers are expected to fund the remaining 50% of the cost with a cash match as required by the Federal Transit Administration.