



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 18, 2021**  
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### ***Flex Your Commute* website launched to assist commuting and return to work planning**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has launched the new *Flex Your Commute* [website](#) to assist companies and the public in rethinking driving alone to work as planning begins for returning to the workplace.

*Flex Your Commute* is a program that encourages employers to work in partnership with their employees to enable them to regain the benefits of their time lost commuting by choosing alternatives to driving alone to work.

“During this nearly 2-year period we have all learned to work productively while getting back time lost sitting alone in traffic,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Employees are more willing to listen to messages from their employers encouraging commute alternatives to help them regain their time by choosing alternatives to driving alone to work.”

The *Flex Your Commute* website provides resources for employers to help them develop a commute program for their employees. Employers can access a commute program implementation guide, a model teleworking agreement, survey templates for assessing a company’s commuting culture and quick links to relevant information on [511.org](#) and other local organizations.

*Flex Your Commute* aims to create a culture of commuting innovation by reducing stress and helping Bay Area companies retain quality employees. Commuters spend hours of lost time driving alone to work. Driving alone costs employees money, can reduce productivity and cause greater loss due to sick days by reducing overall employee health. Encouraging sustainable commuting practices helps employers retain quality employees and enables them to provide a tangible benefit while improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Transportation is the number one source of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in the Bay Area. Carpooling, public transportation, vanpools, bicycling, walking and teleworking will help the region reduce transportation-related air pollution and enable employees to regain their lost time driving alone.

Employers can commit to a commuting partnership with their employees by signing the [Flex Your Commute pledge](#), agreeing to champion a commuting partnership by connecting employees for carpooling, encouraging and incentivizing public transit, fostering vanpools, bicycling, walking, and continuing flexibility through telework.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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