



Contact:

Tommy Adkisson, Bexar County Commissioner
Commissioner's Court, 100 Dolorosa
San Antonio, TX 78205
Tadkisson@bexar.org
Telephone (210) 335-2614
Fax (210) 335-2644

News Release

Bexar County Seeks Transportation Savings for Employees

San Antonio, December 24, 2003 - What do more money in the pockets of our employees, a breath of fresh air, less frazzled nerves and energy independence have to do with the Transportation Initiative of Bexar County? Everything!

Bexar County is making significant progress in the transportation life of its employees. The graph I have assembled reflects a truly dynamite trend in the making based over the last 2 years of experience by Bexar County with the VIA Big Pass purchases by County Employees. What's more, this clearly demonstrates that by working together, we can all do something to keep money in the pockets of our employees, clean the air, reduce dependence on foreign oil and decongest traffic and downtown parking.

Just think: On the larger Downtown level, 50,000 people are estimated to be driving to and from downtown everyday, most as single occupants of the car they are driving! Just a 10% reduction of single-occupant vehicles should reduce by 5,000 cars the traffic and parking dilemma of our downtown!

The cost saving matrix I also constructed indicates the savings that each employee currently driving downtown can personally save based upon how much they pay for parking and how far they travel round-trip. And, this applies to virtually any person working downtown. Additionally, this matrix does not take into account savings that can accrue to "insurance-by-the mile" auto insurance premium reduction potential. So, there is even more savings the matrix reflects.

Again, when this initiative succeeds, our entire community will realize a huge benefit with less traffic to contend with, cleaner air, less dependence on foreign oil and more ample parking for our downtown patrons. Also this will be of great importance to all employers, public and private, who have to finance ground level or God forbid, multi-million dollar, multi-level parking garages. Our success means a lessening of never-ending demand for more and more needless expenditures in this area. And, I am not even mentioning the huge benefit of being in compliance with clean air standards and not being penalized by the EPA which can affect the amount of desperately needed road construction monies we receive.