



Best Workplaces for Commuters: Excellence in Commuter Benefits

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US Environmental Protection Agency

New England Office

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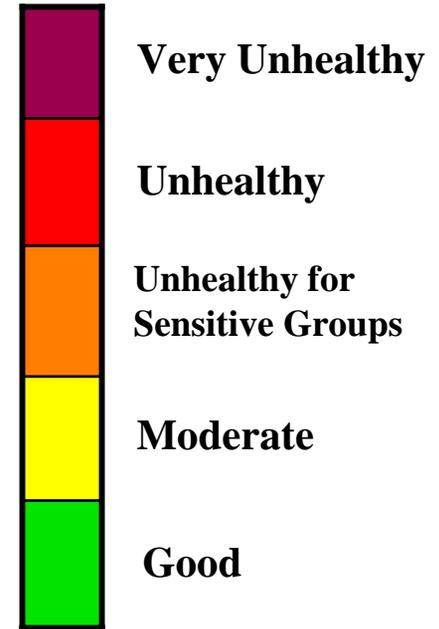
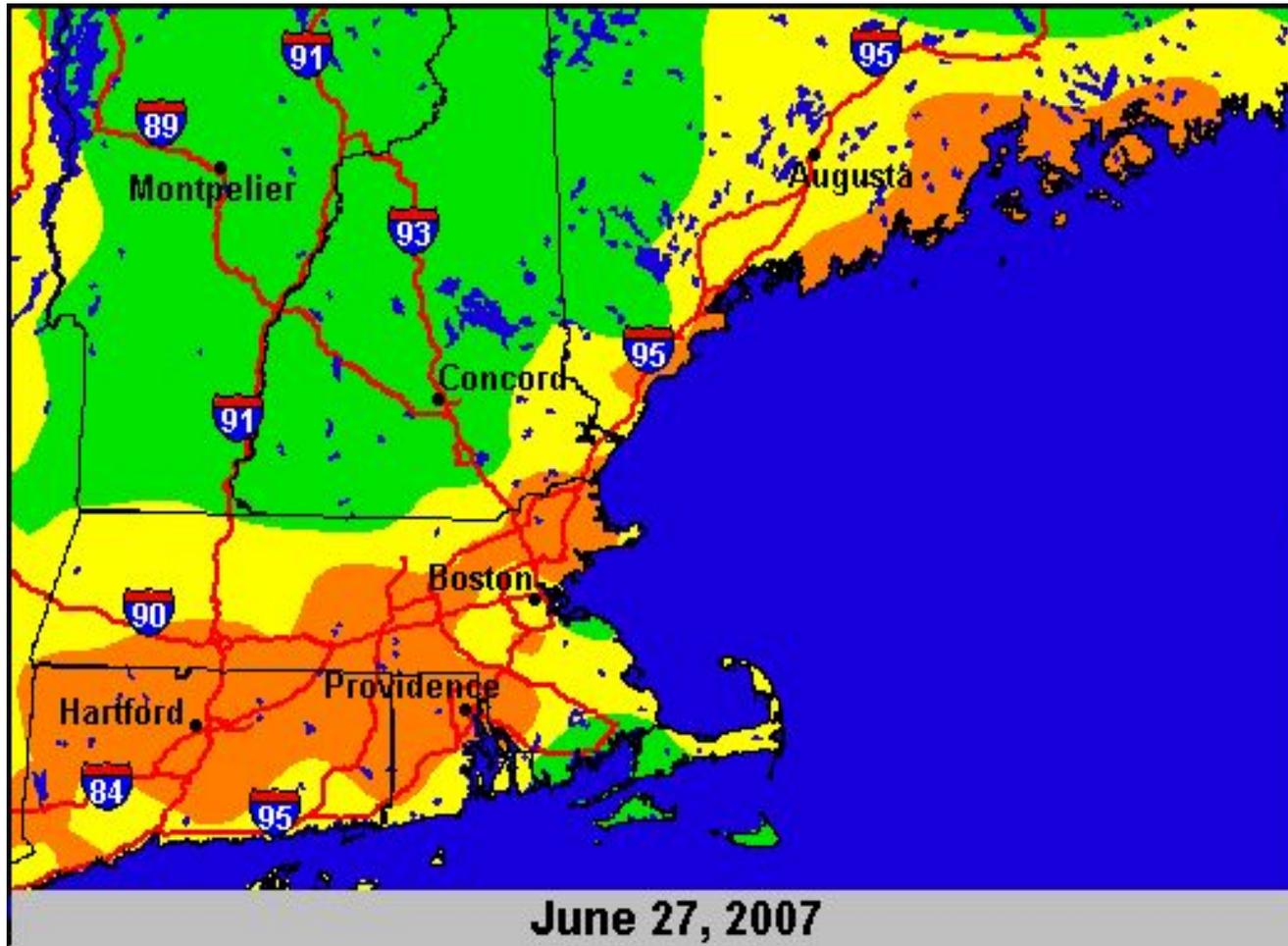


Commuting and the Environment

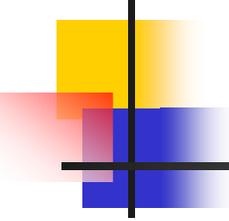


- Vehicle emissions contribute to air pollution and global climate change
 - 1 gal. gasoline = 20 lbs. of climate change pollution (CO₂)
 - Passenger vehicles contribute 20% of U.S. climate change pollution
 - Miles driven have nearly tripled since 1970, rising to 3 trillion miles per year
 - In the U.S., almost 80% of all commuting trips are “drive-alone”
- Air pollution is a concern in Connecticut
 - The state is out of compliance with the ozone health standard
 - In 2007, there were 17 days where ozone levels exceeded the standard
 - Portions of the state are also out of compliance with the fine particle health standards

Typical High Ozone Day in New England



Peak 8-hour
Ozone
Concentrations
on June 27, 2007

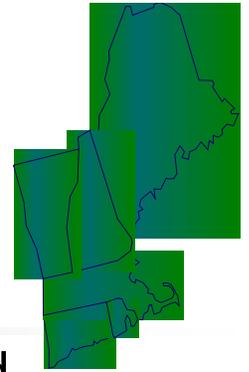


Best Workplaces for Commuters



- EPA partnership with US DOT to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion by increasing transit use, ridesharing, telecommuting, bicycling, and other alternative commute choices (2001)
- Center for Urban Transportation and Research (CUTR) assumed management responsibility beginning October 1 (2007)
- Employers sign a voluntary agreement to provide outstanding commuter benefits to their employees
- EPA/CUTR provides public recognition

Best Workplaces for Commuters – New England



As of September 2007, 153 New England employers and more than 220,000 people

- Connecticut employers include:
 - Analytics, Inc.
 - Bayer Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
 - Nestle Waters North America
 - People's Bank
 - Pitney Bowes
 - South Western Regional Planning Agency
 - Time Warner Cable
 - Yale-New Haven Hospital
- Other New England employers include:
 - City of Cambridge, Massachusetts
 - Boston Scientific, Natick, Massachusetts
 - University of Maine, Orono
 - Hewlett-Packard, Nashua, New Hampshire
 - Kent Hospital, Warwick, Rhode Island
 - Seventh Generation, Burlington, Vermont

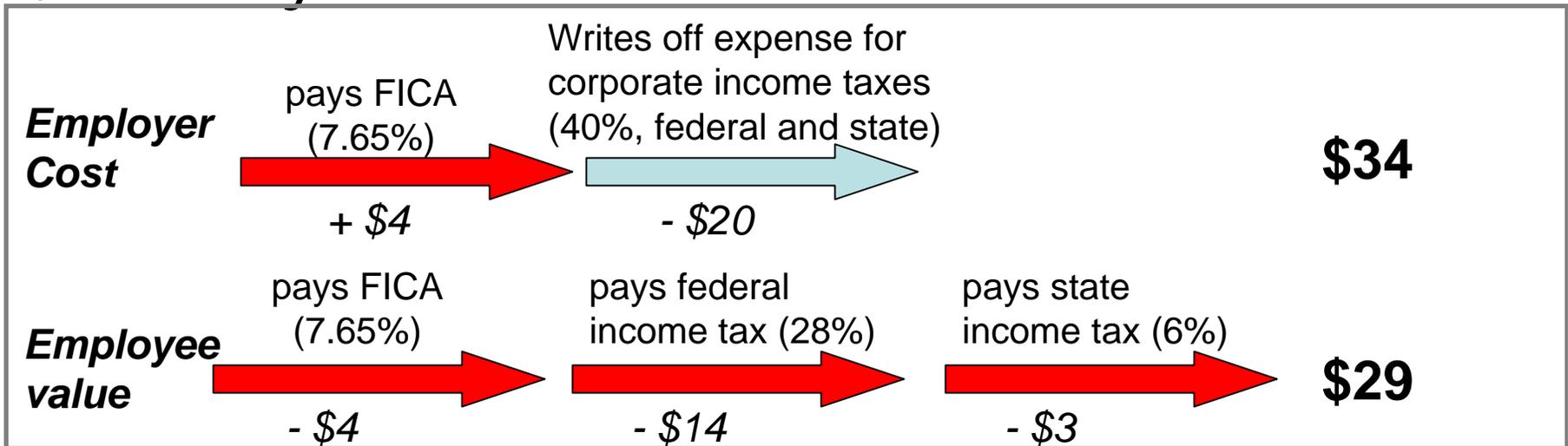
Benefits for Employers



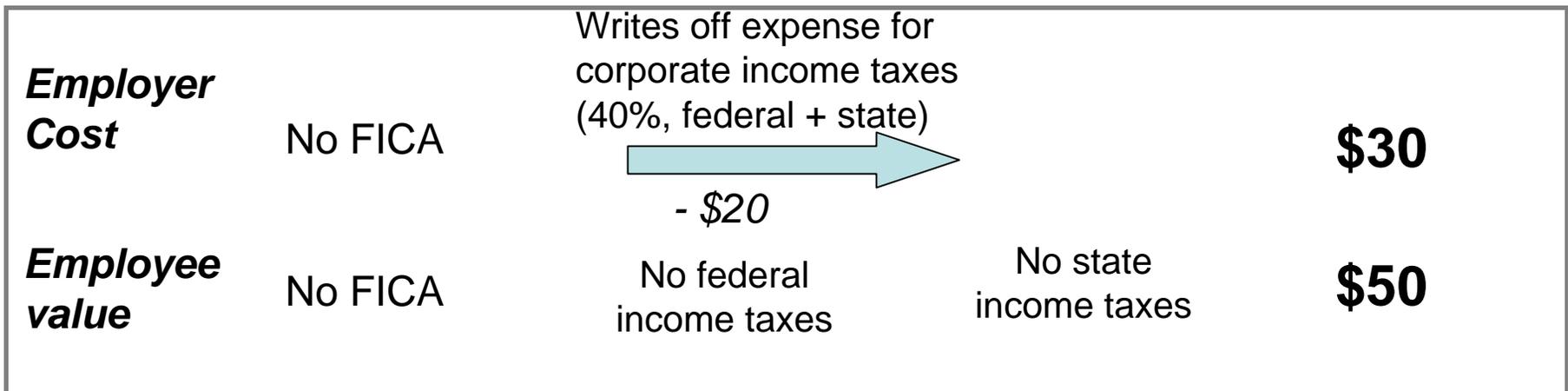
- Save money on taxes and parking
- Receive public recognition
 - Media Exposure
 - Certificate from CUTR
- Improve community relations
 - Reduce Traffic
 - Reduce Parking Spillover
 - Reduce Air Pollution
 - Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Can help distinguish one company from the competition

Commutate Benefits Provide More for Less: Tax Savings make a Difference

\$50 salary increase:



\$50 transit/vanpool benefit:

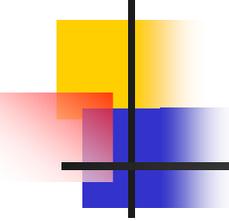


Employer Benefits – Parking Costs



- Reduce parking space demand and expense
 - Transit benefits are generally less expensive than parking. A bus pass for CT Transit is \$45 per month; Parking in a downtown Hartford garage is \$140-150 per month





Benefits for Employees



- Decreased commuting costs
- Increased schedule flexibility
- Less stressful commute means improved quality of life and better job satisfaction
- Helping to do your part to save fuel and reduce air pollution



Get on the List!

- Offer an outstanding commuter benefits package
- Provide **one** of the following:
 - Transit subsidy, vouchers, or passes (\$30/month min)
 - Parking / cash out (\$30/month min)
 - Telecommuting (6% of trips reduced min)
 - Something else (must be approved by federal team)
- Provide a guaranteed ride home program
- Centralize commuter benefit information



Employers must also provide at least three supporting benefits, such as:

- TMA Membership
- Bike parking, showers, lockers
- Commuting awards program
- Compressed work schedules
- Telecommuting
- On-site amenities



The Formalities

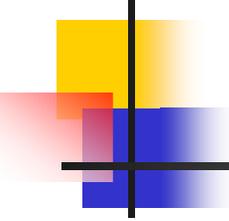


- Review Agreement Particulars
- Sign up online: www.bestworkplaces.org
- Review benefits annually
- Report program progress and success every two years



CUTR/EPA Team Support

- Public Recognition
 - Media Exposure
 - Certificate from CUTR
- Program Implementation
 - Commuter benefits briefs
- Tools and Resources
 - Web calculator tool
 - Network of TDM and benefits professionals



For More Information



- Join the Network!
- www.bestworkplaces.org
- EPA New England staff:
 - Halida Hatic, (617) 918-1680
hatic.halida@epa.gov
- Center for Urban Transportation and Research (CUTR):
 - Online at:
<http://www.bestworkplaces.org/contact.htm>