



"A Customer First Company"

December 2020

Welcome to the December 2020 Edition of "On the Move"

New Technology on DC Metro Area HOV Lanes

Special cameras are now being installed on HOV lanes in the DC metro area that can determine which drivers have their E-Z Pass on the correct settings. The new technology can determine if your E-Z Pass setting actually matches the number of people you say are inside your vehicle by looking in your car. Currently there are already cameras along the HOV lanes that can do this, however there is a plan to cover the entire express corridor over the next couple of months.



Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/4884828213>

The way the camera system works is the technology is able to identify cars traveling on the lanes with an E-ZPass Flex set to HOV ON. Then it verifies that there are at least three people present in the vehicle by using an image classification technology. This technology can determine the shape of a person in a seat compared to an empty seat. Once an image is taken, if a vehicle is deemed in violation of the HOV rules, the image goes through a human review before a driver is notified.

Once a suspected driver has been identified they will receive a message with a reminder of the rules so they can change their behavior. Once a driver has received their first warning if they continue their behavior, they will get charged the toll for that trip.

It is important to remember to set your E-ZPass Flex to the correct setting before you get on the express lanes. If you have an E-ZPass Flex you can use the lanes for free if the device is set to HOV ON and there are three or more people in the vehicle.

Because express lanes use dynamic tolling, if there is more traffic the tolls are higher. Those drivers that do follow the rules can actually be hurt by those who don't. The prices of tolls and the level of traffic on the road is correlated. If the system thinks there is more traffic than there really is then everyone has to pay higher toll prices, including those who are abiding by the rules. This creates an unfair situation for many drivers. For the system to work correctly everyone must have their E-Z Pass on the correct setting.

For those who may be concerned about the photographs taken, the images are encrypted and stored on secure servers. There is also a limited number of people that are actually looking at the pictures. Once images are verified the pictures are modified so that you can't distinguish the individuals in them.

Source: <https://wtop.com/local/2020/11/hov-violators-beware-new-technology-in-dc-area-express-lanes-to-be-installed/>

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How Your Commute Can Help You Keep Your New Year's Resolutions

Did you know that commuting by ridesharing can actually help you keep some of the most popular New Year's resolutions? Here are just a couple you may want to consider.



<https://pixabay.com/photos/search/new%20year%20resolution/>

1. Spend Less and Save More – One of the top reasons people commute is that it saves money on gas, vehicle maintenance, and in some cases, there may be insurance savings. Use the difference of what you would be spending by driving alone to save. Spend less money by sharing your ride.
2. Enjoy More Quality Time When You Do Get Home – Take your commute time to tie up loose ends at work so that once you do get home you can put your work away for the day and enjoy quality time with your family. Also, your commute gives you simply more time at home by minimizing your time on the road.
3. Learn Something New - During your commute you can read a book, take an online class, listen to podcasts or an audiobook, watch training videos, etc... There are so many options out there to help you learn something new on your commute.

4. Make New Friends - Joining a vanpool is an easy way to meet new people, enjoy great conversations, and learn about other's interests.
5. Reduce Stress Levels – riding in a vanpool can dramatically reduce stress levels as compared to riding alone.

Source: <https://gmtma.org/using-your-commute-to-keep-those-new-years-resolutions/>

K&K Connection December Birthdays

We would like to wish everyone born in December a special HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

William Trent
Linda Anthony
Carmen Daughtry
Margaret Johnson
Robert Johnson
Augustus Joseph
Jaideep Karnik
Sheena Marshall
Michael Myers
Roxanna Nunez
Joshua Outhous
Timothy Willard

Donnie Via, Jr.
Wayne Brown
James Croyle
Randy Davis
Scott Doust
Eric Hines
Earl James
Debora Lopez
Dion Mealy
Tia Murphy
Jastar Singh

Welcome to K&K Connections

We would like to say a BIG welcome to all our new riders. We are so privileged that you have decided to make K&K your vanpool company of choice.

Happy New Year from K&K



We pray that you all have had a great holiday season with those you hold dear. We thank you for being a part of the K&K Family and we look forward to 2021 with you.