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GOing Forward

Keeping you current with VanGo™ News
www.vangovanpools.org

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ANNIVERSARIES

Thank you for 10+ years of ridership!

- Elijah Henley
- Vicki Pack
- Richard Bandy
- Melissa Christianson
- Scott Hogan

NTD SURVEY

Due to changes in the Federal Funding Agency requirements, VanGo™ is now required to report the percentage of fares that are paid for by employers and the percentage paid for by employees. This includes fares paid for in full or partially with Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA's), Commuter Benefits, and Subsidies. To gather this information we sent out a survey asking each vanpooler to specify how their fares are paid.

Issue: 29 March 2017

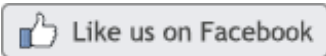
VANGO™ SOCIAL MEDIA

We are focusing on increasing our social media presence. Using Twitter and Facebook accounts, traffic and weather updates are posted to provide useful information for your commute. Postings also include relevant articles regarding commuting and VanGo program information.

Any vanpooler that "Follows" us on Twitter or "Likes" our Facebook page **AND** shares one of our posts or tags us in your own post will be entered in to a raffle for a \$25 Starbucks gift card!

Our goal is to provide more value to the riders through our social media presence continuing to build the program. It also serves as a place to exchange important travel information with each other.

We will raffle off a gift card quarterly this year to reward our loyal followers!



Remember you have to "Like" or "Follow" **AND** tag us in a Post or Share our post to be entered!

LOVELAND MAINTENANCE

We are pleased to announce that VanGo™ and the NFRMPO have reached an agreement to run a pilot maintenance program with the City of Loveland to have selected VanGo™ vans serviced at the Loveland Maintenance Facility located at 200 N. Wilson Ave beginning on February 20, 2017. This new expansion of facilities for VanGo™ participants demonstrates

Thank you to those of you who provided a quick response to the survey! If you have not filled out the survey please do so as soon as possible by following the link below.

[VanGo NTD Survey](#)

If you have trouble filling out the survey please contact Valerie Vollman at vvollman@nfrmpo.org

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT IN VAN

If you find yourself in an emergency situation, there are supplies in the cargo space of your van. In the plastic bin are jumper cables, emergency warning triangles, a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and a space blanket.

Each van also received a collapsible shovel at the last safety meetings, which should come in handy this winter.

TOWING

It is recommended that each vanpool finds out if any riders in your van pay for their own towing service, such as AAA. In the event that your van needs to be towed Wood Street may not always be the fastest option.

In your black saddle bag you will find an emergency contact form and incident forms. Please reference these forms if you find yourself in an emergency situation or if an incident occurs.

LOST KEYS

This is a reminder that the key fobs for all of our fleet are quite expensive to replace; ranging from \$15-\$300. When these fobs are

our commitment to continuing to supply the best and most convenient service possible to our vanpoolers. We're excited to work with Loveland and are sure the pilot will be a success.

ROAD RAGE

According to a recent AAA study nearly 80% of drivers "expressed significant anger, aggression, or road rage behind the wheel at least once in the past year." As vanpoolers traveling long distances daily we're sure you've witnessed this behavior on occasion. In fact what prompts this short topic is an incident where one of our vans was followed by an angry driver. Thankfully, our vanpooler responded correctly. So, what did he do?

- Avoided eye contact
- Did not respond
- Drove to a public area (and actually circled the parking lot a few times)
- Stopped, but did not exit the van or roll down the window

Keep in mind you want to diffuse the situation, not further heighten the tension.

Read more at: <http://exchange.aaa.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Road-Rage-Brochure.pdf>

SPEEDING

VanGo™ takes safety seriously and it is critical to operating a successful program. That's why it's always worrisome when we get calls from other drivers making comments about the driving behaviors of one of our van. Yes, we are an easy target with our phone number boldly displayed but this fact doesn't change the perception of the other drivers. Let us not forget that our vans are our best and most visible form of advertising and that how they operate is a direct reflection on the program.

One of the most of common calls is that our vans are speeding. We know it's called 'rush' hour but, according to a recent NHSTA study, more than 10,000 deaths per year are a direct result of drivers not adhering to the posted speed limits or not adjusting their speed for conditions. It's important to note that VanGo™ vans, in many cases, may be larger than your normal car-and are hopefully carrying more than your personal car; this difference in weight and size translates to longer stopping distances; increased speed simply increases stopping distance.

Besides phone calls we've also seen an increase in photo enforcement notices. And, while we enjoy seeing pictures of participants, note that we do see these violations as the responsibility of the driver. Upon receipt of any photo enforcement ticket we will research and notify the enforcement

lost/misplaced not only must we be notified, but we will also work with the coordinator of the route to collect the appropriate charges.

WINTER DRIVING

Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Slower acceleration is the best method for gaining traction and avoiding skids. Decelerating by shifting down, if your car is equipped, or letting off the accelerator sooner than normal will help reduce skids.

Adjust your speed to the conditions (and keep in mind this may require an earlier start to make it to work on-time.) Give other drivers more space. Stopping distance is greatly increased on snow and ice.

If you can keep moving, even if it's at a crawl, go this route to avoid needing to accelerate a start on a slick surface. Don't stop going up a hill.

Pack a small emergency kit (i.e. water, snacks, blankets, etc.). Gauge the conditions and recognize when your best choice is to stay off the roads.

CONTACT INFO

Questions:

[Shane Armstrong](#)

VanGo™ Website:

www.vangovanpools.org

VanGo™ Social Media



division of the responsible driving party so the ticket can be assigned correctly.

Be safe out there vanpoolers. Remember you are driving someones mom, dad, brother, sister, son, daughter. Deliver them safely to work and home again. We know sometimes you get hung up, someone is late to a pick-up, weather slows the traffic, but never forget that it's always best to arrive late and safe then to be involved in an incident.

TOYOTA RECALL

As many of you already know there has been a recall issued for all Sienna's ranging from 2011-2016-which encompasses all of our Toyota fleet-involving the power sliding door(s) opening when the vehicle is in operation. It is imperative that until Toyota issues a fix for the power door issue, your van's power door(s) remains inactivated to ensure this does not occur.

We at VanGo™ care very much for the safety of all our passengers and thank you all for your cooperation.

Here is the Toyota Press Release concerning the issue:

<http://pressroom.toyota.com/releases/toyota-sienna-recall-nov22.htm>

2017 SAFETY MEETING

We're excited to announce that VanGo™ is trying something new for this year's Safety Meeting.

We will hold one meeting September 13th from 5:30-8:00-what a great time to mingle with ALL the other vanpoolers- and doing so at the Best Western Plus Crossroads Inn and Conference Center right at I-25 and U.S. 34. As is standard, a meal will be provided, but we're even switching this up. This year's meeting will feature a Pizza Bar with bread sticks, salad, and of course we wouldn't forget cookies and brownies.

Remember that it is required that at least one member from each vanpool attend. As we're only doing one event this year we'll be sending invitations electronically. As we get closer to the event date keep an eye out for this.

We look forward to seeing you there!

NORTHERN CO. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Crossroads Bridge replacement and widening is on schedule with the northbound bridge girders about to be set. The project will widen both I-25 and Crossroads under I-25 by one lane in each direction. The Crossroads ramps remain open during construction. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2017. The contractor for the \$22.1M project is RL Wadsworth



of Colorado.

Additional information is available at:

<https://www.codot.gov/projects/i25crossroadsbridge>.

The southbound I-25 Climbing Lane project has added a third lane for 2 miles near the Berthoud Hill. The project is open to traffic but will require at least a partial shutdown in the spring 2017 to complete the final paving and restriping. SEMA Construction of Centennial was awarded the \$10.3M project.

Additional information is available at:

<https://www.codot.gov/projects/i-25-climbing-lane>.