

Ray Atkinson, Clackamas Community College

Check out his blog on transportation & living a car-free life at "[Ray Atkinson Plans](#)"

Walking Distance to Transit

Finding the ways to reduce transportation barriers

Transit: A Common Barrier

Transportation is one of the most common barriers faced by Clackamas County job-seekers. With such a large, rural county, and limited public services, many people living outside of Clackamas' larger towns and cities find it difficult to seek, secure, and maintain a living-wage job unless they have reliable personal transportation.

An Unreliable System

When using the bus system, people must navigate routes, service times, and hours of operation; some must arrange travel plans not only for themselves, but for their families too. Once at a rail station or bus stop, riders must still contend with late pick-ups, vehicle dysfunctions, and lack of seating and spaces on the bike racks.

While these are minor issues for some, they can be insurmountable for others: people with disabilities, the elderly, cyclists, and youth riders may have more difficulty dealing with these issues.

Low Attendance; Poor Performance

Attendance and performance at work or school can also be affected, resulting in missed classes, disgruntled supervisors, and lost opportunities for students and employees. Those with young children face the financial burden of a late pick up from childcare facilities.

Road Map towards Success

While these issues are complex, and there isn't one cure-all that removes ALL transportation barriers, there are some workarounds.

Ray Atkinson, the Clackamas Community College Transportation System Analyst helps to address the transportation needs of CCC's diverse student population and must meet the unique challenges present at each campus.

Finding Reliable Alternatives

To Ray, this is more than just a job, Ray is a transit advocate. He has committed to living a car-free life and advocates for healthy methods of transportation, such as: investment in and expansion of public transit systems, bike share programs, and ride share programs for commuters.

- ✓ **Lower Insurance Costs**
Pay per mileage vehicle insurance programs
- ✓ **Start or Join a Ride Share**
Create a new ride share program or use an already existing ride share program, such as Drive Less, Connect
- ✓ **Bike Rental Programs**
Clackamas Community College Bike Rental Program has ten bikes available for students, faculty and staff to rent for \$25 a term; efforts are being made to expand Portland's Biketown USA program to Clackamas County
- ✓ **TriMet: Low Income Fare Assistance**
Trimet's Fare Assistance Program reduces the cost of ridership by over 50% for a two-year period