

# GET MOVING WITH THE PEOPLE MOVER

RELAX, SAVE MONEY AND DO THE EARTH A FAVOR

BY BEN HISTAND  
SPECIAL TO 61° NORTH

People in Anchorage ride the bus for any number of reasons - convenience, savings, a desire to be green - but for Paula Kangis, the appeal is very simple. "I love the fact that I'm not driving. I don't have to pay attention, so I can focus on a friend I'm riding with, or on my kids."

Eliminating the stress of driving is just one way bus riding can help people stay healthy, though. With spring upon us, those looking for an active lifestyle should find themselves well-served by the People Mover's 14 routes, many of which hit popular exercise and recreation spots such as Russian Jack Springs Park, Jewel and Goose lakes, and the Spendarr and Fairview recreation centers.

Swimmers can be dropped off (and picked up, of course) at the public pools at West, East, and Diamond high schools, and for

those looking to get a bit more ambitious, the People Mover collaborates with Flattop Mountain Shuttle, a private service providing round trip transportation to Anchorage's (and Alaska's) most popular hike.

With nearly 1,100 stops in the Anchorage area, chances are you're never far from service, and neither is your destination - which brings up another of Kangis' favorite things about riding: "No parking!"

More of Kangis' reasons to ride:

- **It's relaxing.** "So many people find themselves bust doing so much these days. (On the bus), you have time to read a book, catch up on some work or just relax and enjoy the view."
- **It can give you a new perspective.** "You might see sights you wouldn't normally see if you usually drive."

- **Riding the bus can be easily complemented by exercise.** "Get out and walk to the bus stop - that's a healthy way to get around."
- **Kids up to 18 ride free on Thursdays.** "In summer, kids are out of school, but parents still need to work," says Kangis. "So Thursday can be a day for kids to get out and go to a park, or do something else outside the house. That alleviates stress for parents."
- **Biking and buses make a great match.** All People Mover buses have built-in bike racks. "Our newer bus fleet will accommodate up to three bikes. I wish they'd had that in my earlier days when I was biking and riding buses all the time."
- **Your car will thank you.** "Riding the bus can really reduce wear and tear on your car. I encourage people, even if they're not regular riders, to park the car and ride the bus once a week." ◊

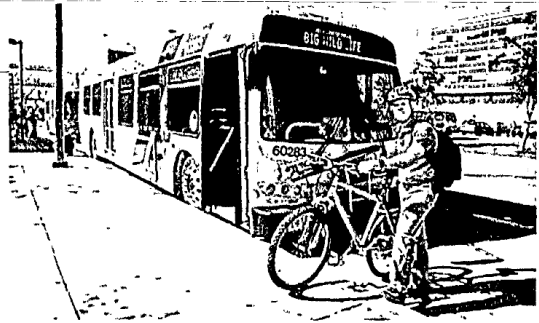


PHOTO COURTESY OF PEOPLE MOVER

COMING JUNE 11, 2012

These fareboxes will not accept tokens or old day passes without the magnetic stripe. Riders must exchange these for new ride tickets and day passes by December 15, 2012.

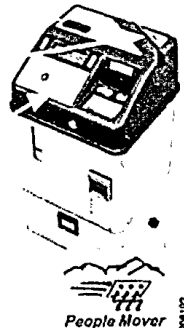
DIP your **RIDE TICKET** with arrow pointing downward every time you ride.  
DIP your **1 or 5 DAY PASS** the first time you use to activate.

Once activated, **SWIPE** your **1 or 5 DAY PASS** on subsequent boardings.  
Swipe passes from right to left with magnetic stripe facing you.

TAP the red target with your  for express boarding.

Passes and tickets will be available at all outlet locations.

Located at the Downtown Transit Center only, the Ticket Vending Machine (TVM) will sell passes, tickets and Smart Cards.



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