



## THE *Heart* OF THE TRIANGLE

Sharing the vision and supporting the mission of the Triangle area non-profit community

# GoTriangle Partners with the Community to Improve Travel Choices

by Judy Liu, MPH

**T**he Research Triangle Park in North Carolina is among the top ten growth areas in the nation. Families and corporations are attracted to the area due to the moderate cost of living, cultural resources and beautiful greenways and trails. GoTriangle supports the development of additional transportation options to support the population growth in the area.

GoTriangle is a not-for-profit organization that aims to improve the region's quality of life by connecting people and places with reliable, safe, and easy-to-use travel choices that reduce congestion and energy use, save money and promote sustainability, healthier lifestyles and a more environmentally responsible community.

GoTriangle operates regional bus and shuttle services, paratransit services, ride matching and vanpools; provides commuter resources; offers an emergency ride home program; and hosts GoTransitNC.org and GoTriangle.org. The agency plans to implement future regional transit improvements as a member of the GoTransit family of services. To find bus routes in the area, visit <http://gotriangle.org/maps-and-schedules>

GoTriangle, the Research Triangle Foundation (RTF), the North Carolina Railroad Company (NCRR) and the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority have recently formed a new transit task force

to enhance connectivity to jobs and destinations throughout the region and to global opportunities. Through this new regional partnership, the organizations will work together to strengthen access to transportation in the planned Park Center development in Research Triangle Park by evaluating options for:

- The short-term relocation of the Regional Transit Center (RTC) from its current location on Slater Road in Durham to RTP's Park Center development.

- Improved connectivity between the RTC and the Raleigh-Durham International airport, including the study of alternatives for a direct transit link.

- An improved circulator system in the Park, linking RTP companies to Park Center and the region.

- Improved pedestrian and bike access throughout RTP, linking pedestrian and transit uses with the new RTC, including bike share.

To learn about the transit task force, contact Mike Charbonneau at [mcharbonneau@gotriangle.org](mailto:mcharbonneau@gotriangle.org) or 919-485-7413. To share and voice your opinions regarding emerging and existing transportation offerings in the Triangle, please note that the public comment period is held at the regular monthly Board of Trustees meetings and gives citizens an opportunity to speak on any item. The session is limited to

thirty minutes and each speaker is limited to three minutes. Speakers are required to sign in with the Clerk of the Board prior to the start of the meeting. For information related to the Board, contact Michelle Dawson at [mdawson@gotriangle.org](mailto:mdawson@gotriangle.org).

### HOW YOU CAN DO YOUR PART

- Combining individual trips (e.g. stop by the grocery store after work instead of initiating a separate trip)
- Carpool for regular activities (e.g. picking up/dropping off children at school, picking up/dropping off children at afternoon activities, going to/returning from the office, going to/returning from social events with friends)
- Leverage flexible work options by working virtually from home
- Ask a neighbor to pick up groceries for you and return the favor (keeping one extra car off the road)
- Walk or bike to nearby destinations
- Use mass transportation options
- Encourage your family and friends to leverage mass transportation and to adopt other eco-friendly transportation methods

*Natural Awakenings supports Triangle area non-profits by offering a free full-page feature article each month. It is a very visible platform from which an organization can tell its story and detail the services it offers. Please let us know if you would like for your non-profit organization to be considered for inclusion in an upcoming issue. Call 919-342-2831 or email [TrianglePublisher@NaturalAwakeningsMag.com](mailto:TrianglePublisher@NaturalAwakeningsMag.com).*