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GO service gets you where you need to go

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Getting around Joint Base Lewis-McChord and surrounding areas is easier than ever with all of the services the GO Lewis-McChord program has to offer.

GO Transit, GO Bikes and GO Rideshare are all part of this larger program, and they each aim to make transportation for the JBLM community cheaper, easier and maybe even a little more fun.

GO Transit is a free service operating seven days a week, 19 hours a day from 7 to 2 a.m., with frequent stops around Lewis Main, Lewis North, McChord Field and at the Highway 512 Park n' Ride.

GO Transit also connects with Pierce Transit at the Highway 512 Park n' Ride, Madigan Army Medical Center and McChord Field.

“With a transfer at the Lakewood Transit Center, these connections can get someone to Seattle and back for around \$11,” said Jason Dalton, GO Transit supervisor.

Dalton, a former service member who was stationed at JBLM, understands the difficulties of being a service member without a car.

Not just for the individual, but noncommissioned officers who may need to take them to appointments around the installation.

“The unit doesn’t need to lose two service members for an appointment,” Dalton said. “The NCO can just get them the GO Transit schedule and get them on a van.”

GO Transit riders can now get live information on where the vans are and when they’ll be at a particular stop by using the One Bus Away app.

GO Bikes is another way to get around the base easily and free plus get some exercise while you’re at it. There are four locations to borrow bikes: Lewis Main, Lewis North, Madigan and McChord.

All Department of Defense cardholders are eligible to use these bikes and reflective gear, helmets, lights and locks are included.

To check out a bike, only a Common Access Card and a signed waiver are needed.

Go Rideshare is for the daily work commute. This program helps people match up to either carpool or vanpool, potentially saving the riders hundreds of dollars per month.

DOD employees are eligible to receive \$255 per month with the Mass Transit Benefit Program — for most, that’s a free ride to work.

This benefit can be used to join an existing vanpool or start your own with a minimum of five people. The transit agency, from either the county the employee lives in or the county they work in, provides the van, fuel and maintenance.

A common concern for many employees is what happens if an employee unexpectedly needs to go home, perhaps due to illness or they have to work late.

That’s covered with the Emergency Ride Home program. All an employee has to do is call a taxi and then submit for reimbursement.

More information
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 Jason Dalton
 GO Transit supervisor

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They can do this up to six times per year so there's never the worry of being stranded at work.

GO Transit routes and schedules, GO Bike locations, and more information on GO Rideshare can be found at GOLewisMcChord.com.

Follow GO Lewis-McChord on Facebook for updates on the program.

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