

*in their words.....*

## **Quotes from *Way To Go, Seattle 2001***

### **During the Program**

*"Today (first day w/o the extra car) was one of the most relaxing, peaceful days I've had in a long time. It was a great reminder to slow down and not be so busy."*

*"I realized the distance from the parking lot to the office was greater than from the bus stop to the office."*

*"We realized quickly how much we DIDN'T use that second car, even to begin with. Yes, I think we'll sell our car. It's almost more trouble to have to go move it around so it doesn't get towed. That is how little we drive it."*

*"We enjoyed carpooling the most – I enjoyed driving to trailhead with the company of others. Once we piled 5 people, a baby, and a dog into a Subaru and had a blast!"*

*"For the most part, our kids did great. It was probably hardest for our four-year old. I said in one of my non-driving diaries that "trying to convince a four year old that walking is a better way to go is sometimes hard to do." He did like taking the bus, but the walking got a little old for him."*

*"We learned we could take the bus downtown and to Mariners' games."*

*"We did take advantage of using a taxi. It was not necessarily the extra money (saved from not using an extra car) but the time- savings of not having to find parking, etc. that supported our decisions to use a taxi."*

*Their best experiences were: "Watching the price of gas rise for other people, and getting to know various neighborhoods better by walking instead of driving. When we heard reports of traffic jams, we counted our blessings that we were not caught up in them."*

*"We found we could get just about wherever we needed to go by bus, but had to allow more time. We feel healthier from the added exercise from walking to the store and the bus."*

*"It is very frustrating to wait in traffic. However, there are times on my bike or running when I get equally scared because of aggressive drivers."*

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### **After the Program Ended**

*"It was a pleasant surprise to us to find that the second car is not really necessary for us at all. With just a little more communication each week regarding our plans, we were able to get around with very little sacrifice of convenience."*

*"I would say that being a bus rider on a regular basis became something I looked forward to. Aside from the freedom of the responsibility of a car, I enjoyed many good conversations on the bus and found somewhat of a sense of community with fellow riders. In a world in which it has become increasingly easy to become isolated from one another, I found this to be a welcomed difference."*

*"I learned that I really only need a car for short distances – usually less than 5 miles from home – and that it would only need to go 30 miles per hour and hold 4 people maximum."*

*They will bike more, and feel non-car forms of transportation are more fun and social. Nick is now known as a source of bus information at work and he enjoys encouraging his coworkers to try it.*

*"We spent less time travelling by using one less car and we liked that, and with all the carpooling we did, we used the HOV lanes a lot."*

*Kelly Bainbridge believes ". . .perhaps when the day comes that our traffic, our noise and our pollution is more than we can bear, maybe then more of us will be ready to make a change. In the meantime, Way to Go, Seattle is changing mindsets one household at a time and proving – with each person who reduces the use of their car, our city can become a little safer, quieter and cleaner."*

*"Before when I would have driven north for movies or shopping, I now headed downtown on the bus. It was a fun experience. Same movies, same shopping, but it was wonderful not having to deal with a huge parking lot and parking. We also found that "bus adventures" are a great deal on Sundays as kids ride for free! It's much cheaper to get around if you take the initiative to use your feet and METRO."*

*"Mostly it was surprising how we didn't need the extra car. We don't want to sink money into repairing a car we don't even need."*

*"I hate car maintenance as much as I hate traffic. This study was a real eye-opener. I'm not afraid to take the bus more often! Joe takes the bus all the time. I was the more reluctant one, but now I see that it is much more relaxing and usually convenient. I am definitely a better planner-now I schedule my errands for one "driving day" per week."*

*"When deciding whether to take a car or bus, we'll lean more toward the bus. We'll also continue to combine errands and consider walking instead of driving."*

*"It was a good feeling to know we could get around with only one car if we had to, and it was less frustrating being on a bus instead of being stuck in traffic, although buses does make the travel time longer."*