

**Erin Kelley**  
**AT&T**  
**Vanpooler**



Erin Kelley, a Senior Field Assistant Administrator at AT&T, has been using an alternative to driving alone to work for more than 7 years. When she worked downtown, she bused from her West Seattle home. When she started working at AT&T, she quickly found a vanpool to take her the longer distance. Erin has been vanpooling to AT&T for the last 7.5 years an average of 4 times a week.

She originally started using an alternative to driving alone for two reasons: it was more economical, and it was better for the environment. She still sees it as a win-win. She's continuing to save money, save wear and tear on her car, and decrease her carbon footprint. At the same time, she's also turning her commute time into quality time. Some days she spends time catching up with her fellow vanpoolers, some days she just sits back and closes her eyes on the way to work, and one day a week she serves as the vanpool driver.

During the spring and summer, Erin vanpools to work on Fridays and then bikes the 35 miles home. She follows the Lake Sammamish River Trail to Burke Gilman, through Interbay, down through Myrtle-Edwards Park in Seattle and on down and around to Alki beach. Erin's bike route is almost exclusively on bike trails or in bike lanes—a highly scenic route that gives a Erin a direct experience of the beautiful environment she's helping to preserve.

AT&T subsidizes the employee Flexpass that partially covers Erin's monthly vanpool cost, making it that much easier for Erin to leave her car at home. The City of Redmond's [www.GOtrip.com](http://www.GOtrip.com) site helps Erin keep track of the pounds of pollution she's keeping out of the environment by making the choices she makes.

Erin is eager to share with others how easy it is to vanpool/walk/bike as part of her commute in order to reduce trips on the road and do her part in reducing pollution in this beautiful place we live. She is clearly a 2009 Commute Champion.