

Alternative Transportation Champion:

# Carol Letson



Vital Information: Director, GCC Library (retired), Greenfield resident

I used buses and walked until I was 22 and purchased a car. Our young family caused us to think we needed two cars. When my children grew up and left home, my husband and I used our only car for out-of-town travel and bad weather trips.

I live near enough to grocery stores, library, Town Hall, the market and banks to do my every-day shopping by foot. When I was working at Greenfield Community College, I would ride my bike to work each day during the spring, summer, and fall – 2 miles each way.

Carpooling is a great step in the right direction. If you ride your bicycle to commute, find roads that have lower truck/car traffic. Think about carpooling to a Park & Ride lot, then you can use a bus or bicycle to complete the trip.

Save a significant amount, if you don't use your car to commute. Triple AAA just published updated figures for annual costs of using a car based on 15,000 miles annually – cost per year: small sedan \$6,735; medium sedan: \$8,780.



“ Exercise on a bicycle helps with strength and balance. Walking is a pleasure – I enjoy taking different routes to go to the same part of town when doing errands. ”

We do need to raise awareness among drivers about how to respect bicyclists. Bicyclists of all ages need to be better informed about etiquette - no bicycles on sidewalks on Main and Federal Streets in Greenfield. No weaving in traffic, etc.

**Share the road.**

You can do it too! To learn how, visit [massbike.org](http://massbike.org)



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