



Club Rideshare

January 2022 Newsletter



Renew Your Club Rideshare Membership, Get \$15

It's that time of year to renew your Club Rideshare membership.

The OC Rideshare office will be sending out emails by the end of this month to all current Club Rideshare members to renew their participation. When you renew, you'll get a \$15 bonus in your paycheck—plus you'll continue to qualify for \$25 prize drawings throughout the year.

To be in Club Rideshare, you must have carpooled, vanpooled, rode bus/rail, biked or walked to work 20 or more times over the past 90 days. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are also currently allowing days you work at home to count toward your rideshare totals.

Contact the [Rideshare Office](#) if you have any questions or [use this link to complete a renewal application](#).

Riding Bus or Rail? Keep Masking Up!

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recently extended the mask mandate in an effort to help curb the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. Public transit riders are now required to wear a face covering on board at least through March 18.

The mandate applies to all transportation modes, including bus, rail, paratransit, micro-transit, vanpool and rideshare arrangements such as Uber and Lyft.

For details, visit [tsa.gov](https://www.tsa.gov).

3 Ways to Get from the Train to the Office

Want to ride a Metrolink train to work but the closest station is too far from the office to walk? You might still be able to enjoy the comfort and speed of riding the train by choosing one of the many options that can take you the last leg of your commute.

[\(continued\)](#)

"Why I Rideshare"

Christian Haase's daily commute is about 100 miles round trip—from where he lives in Loma Linda to his job in Probation in Santa Ana. Luckily, since he drives an electric vehicle, he's able to use the special exemption for EVs and drive in the carpool lanes on the I-55 Freeway and on the 91 Express Lanes.

It saves him significant time on the drive and was a big motivating factor in his decision to buy an EV in the first place.

Another perk: being able to bypass the gas pump. "I haven't been to a gas station in a year and a half," he says. "And that makes me very happy."

Christian also qualified for a **\$100 bonus from the County** when he bought his EV.



Did You Get Your Perk Pass?

New OC Bus Perk Passes were mailed in December to all OC Bus riders. Your Perk Pass allows you to use payroll deduction to pay for transit costs with pre-tax dollars, up to \$69 monthly.

If you don't receive a card in the mail—or if you ride transit but aren't currently signed up for Perk Pass—call the OC Rideshare office at 714.834.7600.



3 Ways to Get from the Train... (continued from p.1)



1. Buses and shuttles.

Use your valid Metrolink ticket to transfer free to most OC Bus routes, as well as **iShuttle vans**, which are special shuttles timed

to meet trains arriving at Metrolink stations in both Irvine and Tustin.

On OC Bus express routes 206 and 213, a Metrolink ticket takes \$2 off the usual fare.



2. OC Flex on-demand vans.

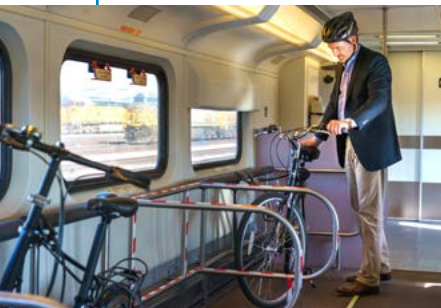
OC Flex offers **shared, curb-to-curb service** similar to a Lyft or Uber, and a Metrolink ticket is valid as full fare. OC Flex vans travel to and from the Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo Metrolink Station within a specific zone.

Download the app or call to arrange a ride when you get to your station.

3. Bring your bike on board.

You can **bring your bike on board Metrolink trains**, and trains include specially designated bike cars that hold up to nine bikes on the lower level. Battery-powered bikes and scooters are also allowed on board.

A mix of riding the train and then finishing your commute on a bike means you may be able to bike to work even if you live far from the office.



IRS Cap Up \$10

For the 2022 tax year, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) maximum if you pay for transit and vanpool fares using pre-tax dollars gets a slight bump—from \$270 to \$280 per month.

For more information, consult your tax professional or the IRS at [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

We'd like to extend a big "congrats" and thanks for ridesharing to the December 2021 winners of the Club Rideshare monthly prize drawing of \$25:

- Irma Chavando, OCHCA
- Christian Haase, OCIT
- Julianna Mailhot, ROV



Need to Get Home in an Emergency?

Did you know...? You can be reimbursed for your ride if you need to get home due to an emergency on a day you shared the ride, biked or walked to work. The County will cover the cost of up to two rides per fiscal year.

Simply book your ride via taxi, rideshare company (i.e., Uber/Lyft), Metrolink or other approved type of ride. Then submit the receipt along with the **Guaranteed Ride Home Reimbursement Form**.

Contact the Rideshare Office for more information.



Have You Moved?

If your home address, work/home phone number or email has changed, please let the Rideshare Office know by sending an email to rideshare@ocgov.com.



Club Rideshare

Email: rideshare@ocgov.com
Phone: 714.834.7600
Web: <https://hrs.ocgov.com/hr-resources/rideshare>

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