



Club Rideshare

July 2022 Newsletter



Take the OC Bus Survey for a Chance to Win \$100

Give Feedback on Potential Route Changes That May Affect Your Commute

OC Bus recently released proposed changes that aim to improve service on its most popular lines, add bus trips, reduce transfer times and eliminate some underused routes.

They want to hear from you!

Take a look at the plan, which includes specific route changes that may impact your commute. What do you think of the proposed changes? Are there any

you'd like to ensure are or are not included?

Then take a brief survey by July 25 for a chance to win one of five \$100 VISA gift cards.

OC Bus is also accepting comments at a public hearing on July 25 at 9 a.m. at Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Headquarters in Orange, as well as via phone and mail. Find out more at [OCbus.com/Connections](https://ocbus.com/Connections).



July 4th Discount

Ride Metrolink on the Fourth of July at the **special holiday discount of \$10**. You can go anywhere Metrolink travels all day long.



"Why I Rideshare"

In taking on a bet from a friend during Bike Month, Linh Ho started biking four days a week to her job at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana — a 10-mile round-trip commute.

She wanted to do her part to reduce air pollution, but there were other benefits as well.

"As I started seeing the price of gas go up, it was a big motivation," she says. "I've been enjoying the mental clarity from riding and not having to sit in traffic." Plus, Linh is training for a marathon, so she gets to combine cardio training with her commute.

It takes about the same amount of time for her to bike as it does to drive. She's able to ride in bike lanes, allowing her to make it through the Civic Center area without hitting traffic and lights, adding "I have really enjoyed taking advantage of the County's network of trails."

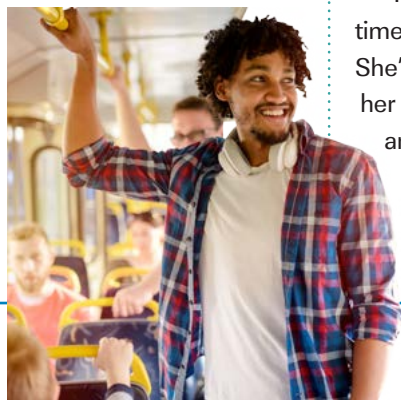


A Few Things You (Maybe) Didn't Know About the Rideshare Program

You may know that the Rideshare Office offers plenty of perks to employees like you who choose an alternative to driving alone. Here are a few things maybe you didn't know (or are at least worth a reminder):

• **You don't have to rideshare the same way daily to qualify (or continue to qualify) for rideshare program benefits.**

To be a member in Club Rideshare, you can choose any combination of carpooling, vanpooling, riding the bus/train, bicycling, walking, teleworking or driving an EV/PHEV—as long as you do it 20 times over a 90-day period. **(continued)**





A Few Things...

(continued from pg. 1)

“Especially since the COVID shutdowns, people need flexibility in how they commute,” says Denise Van Stratten with the Rideshare Office. “You may not be

reporting into the office every day, or your usual rideshare arrangement may no longer be available. We want you to be able to choose the way to get to work that works best for you—even if on some days that’s driving alone.”

• An emergency isn’t the only reason you can be reimbursed for a ride home.

The County’s Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) **program reimburses you for the cost of an Uber/Lyft, taxi or other approved mode on a day you rideshare to work** but need to get home due to an emergency up to two times per fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

Did you know...? Not only do emergencies qualify, but you can claim a GRH reimbursement if you need to get home because you or a family member is ill, or if you miss your rideshare arrangement due to unexpected overtime.

• It’s not just the OC Bus monthly bus pass that you can buy using pre-tax dollars.

The Rideshare Office allows you to **buy many types of transit passes via payroll deduction**. When you do, you’ll use pre-tax dollars, lowering your overall taxable income.

This includes the OC Bus 30-Day pass and annual pass, as well as Metrolink’s monthly, 7-Day, 1-Day, 5- and 10-Day Flex passes.

(Please note: the special Metrolink Summer 1-Day \$15 pass cannot be purchased via payroll deduction.)

• If you move, your work schedule changes, or your usual rideshare arrangement isn’t available, the Rideshare Office can help.

You don’t have to revert to the expense and stress of driving alone every day.

The Rideshare Office can provide you with an updated list of options based on where you live, where you work and your current work schedule. This includes potential carpool partners, vanpool seats available, transit routes and more.

You can also find information customized to your commute 24/7 by logging in at ridematch.info.



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Win Metrolink Tickets to Get to the Ocean Festival

Enter for **a chance to win two Metrolink tickets** to visit the **San Clemente Ocean Festival** July 16 and 17. The festival features family-friendly events, surf contests, art, music and more.

Metrolink is the way to go to visit the festival without the hassle of driving and finding parking.

Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

We’d like to extend a big “congrats” and thanks for ridesharing to June winners of the Club Rideshare monthly prize drawing of \$25:

- Julianne Reisinger, OCSD
- Carlos Asencio, Probation
- Patrick Copland, Clerk-Recorder



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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