



Club Rideshare

November 2022 Newsletter



Your New Perk Pass Is on the Way

Important news for County and Superior Court employees who ride transit: Your new Perk Pass will be mailed soon to your home address. Be sure to keep an eye out for it.



If you've moved within the last year, you'll need to update your home address with the Rideshare Office to ensure that you receive your pass.

Even if you only occasionally ride the bus, you'll need an updated Perk Pass. It allows you to pre-load transit fares—whether monthly passes or per-ride costs—which are automatically deducted when you tap the card to board.

If you have questions, call the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600.

Save While You Support Local Businesses

Doing some holiday shopping and celebrating in Santa Ana? You can get special discounts with the Eat Shop Play program that aims to support businesses along the construction zone for the OC Streetcar.

Find a map along with details at octa.net/eatshopplay—or look for the Eat Shop Play logo decal (pictured below) outside of participating merchants.

Feeling the Sting of High Gas Prices?

Some good news: The State of California is sending money directly to millions of residents to help with rising costs and high gas prices.

Dubbed the Middle Class Tax Refund (MCTR), it's a one-time payment of \$200 to \$1,050. Those eligible will automatically receive a payment via check or direct deposit. Payments started in October and are expected to be issued through January 2023.

For more information and to find out if you're eligible for the refund, visit taxrefund.ca.gov or call 800.542.9332.

Plus, More Ways to Save On Gas...

If you rideshare, you're already enjoying savings at the pumps by driving less often. A few other ways you can save:

Compare prices. Apps like gasbuddy.com can show local prices, so you don't have to burn gas driving around searching for the lowest prices at the pumps.

If you already carpool, add another person. The more people splitting driving duties, the more each of you save on gas. **The Rideshare Office**

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Plus, More Ways... (continued from page 1)

can help you find potential carpoolers, or visit ridematch.info for a list of people who live near you and work a similar schedule.

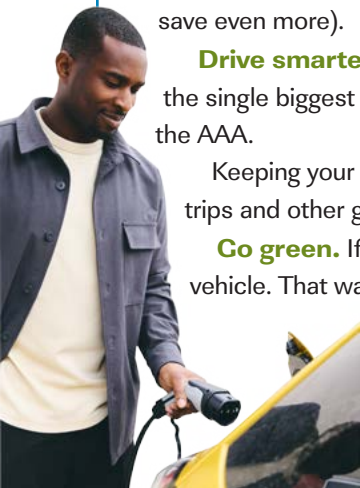
Add transit to the mix. Riding the bus or rail can be an affordable alternative to driving. Transit fares aren't affected by high gas prices (and when you **pay for fares using pre-tax dollars via payroll deduction**, you can save even more).

Drive smarter. Studies have shown that personal driving habits are the single biggest factor affecting vehicle fuel consumption, according to the AAA.

Keeping your car maintained, not accelerating quickly, combining trips and other good habits can add up in the long run to lower gas use.

Go green. If you're in the market for a car, consider an electric vehicle. That way, the price of gas won't be an issue at all.

California's Clean Vehicle Rebate Program may be able to save you up to \$7,000 off the cost to lease or buy an EV. The County also offers a **\$100 incentive** when you buy or lease an electric car or truck.



Get Construction Updates

Orange County has several freeway projects underway, which may affect your commute. Visit Orange County Transportation Authority for the latest updates and alerts:

- Widening of the **I-5 between SR-73 and El Toro Road**
- Building express lanes and other improvements on **I-405 between SR-73 and I-605**
- Adding new lanes **to SR 55 between I-405 and I-5**

Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Maria Corona, OCHCA
- Angela Wong, SSA
- Mylinh Tu, ROV



Metrolink News

30% Discount on Monthly Passes

In celebration of its 30th anniversary, Metrolink is offering a **30% discount on monthly fares through 2022**. (Pass must be purchased by Dec. 14.)

As a monthly pass holder, you'll also qualify for special perks, including a free "bring a friend" pass, bonus points when you sign up for the **So Cal Explorer loyalty program** and free rides systemwide on weekends.

SOCAL Explorer



Win a Free January Pass

Exclusively for County of Orange and Superior Court employees: You could win a free January 2023 Metrolink monthly pass when you purchase a monthly pass.

Each purchase of a pass for the months of October, November and December is an entry into the contest.

Metrolink will notify the winner by Dec. 20 and send a promo code via email.

Metrolink's Special Holiday Rate

On Thanksgiving Day, Metrolink will run on its Sunday schedule and price—so it's only \$10 to travel all day, anywhere Metrolink goes.



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>

The Rideshare Office Has Moved!
OC Rideshare Program Office
County of Orange
Human Resource Services
601 N. Ross St., 2nd Floor, Santa Ana

