



# Club Rideshare

February 2023 Newsletter



## “Why I Rideshare”

When Dale Vermillion was looking for a house in Riverside, he specifically set out to find one near a Metrolink train station. “I wanted to avoid dealing with bumper-to-bumper traffic on the 91 every day,” he says, noting that to drive home would most likely take him hours.



Instead, his ride on the train to where he works in Santa Ana for the Department of Public Works only takes about 45 minutes.

“I’ve found it’s economical both for my gas budget and my work/life balance,” Dale says. “Riding the train is a real stress reliever.”

Another perk: He pays for Metrolink fares by having them automatically **deducted from his paycheck using pre-tax dollars**, lowering his overall taxable income.

“I love the train,” he adds. “I’ll never drive again if I don’t have to.”

## OC Bus News

### Check out Next Stop:

OC Bus’s new monthly Next Stop newsletter gives riders the latest about

*(continued)*



## Join Us for the First “Lunch and Learn”

The County Rideshare Office will be hosting a series of fun, informative “Lunch and Learn” online sessions that will help you get the most out of your commute.

Mark your calendar to join us for the first Lunch and Learn on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 12 Noon. You’ll hear about the incentives the County offers to employees who choose alternatives to driving alone—from transit subsidies to EV rebates to monthly prize drawings and more. It’s a great opportunity to make sure you’re not missing out on benefits for which you may qualify!

Please also feel free to invite a fellow coworker who might like to learn about how they can get special benefits when they rideshare, too.

Each session takes place online via Teams and runs 30 minutes. It’s followed by a 30-minute Q & A so you can ask the Rideshare Office any questions you may have.

To join the Lunch and Learn, simply [click here](#) to be connected to the Teams link. (You don’t need to register in advance to participate.)

Questions? Call the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600 or email

[rideshare@ocgov.com](mailto:rideshare@ocgov.com).



## Ride Metrolink & More Free on Feb. 4

Feb. 4 is Transit Equity Day. In honor of Rosa Parks' birthday, it is a day that promotes making transit affordable and accessible to people in all communities.

**Fares will be free on Feb. 4 on Metrolink trains** throughout Southern California. All you have to do is simply arrive at the station and board the train (no ticket required) to ride Metrolink all day, anywhere it goes.

In addition, **people in San Bernardino County can board their local bus for free** for the day. This includes Omnitrans, Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA), Mountain Transit, Needles Area Transit (NAT)/Dial-a-Ride, and Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTA).



## OC Bus... (continued from page 1)

discounts, great places to go, how to get the most of your ride and more.

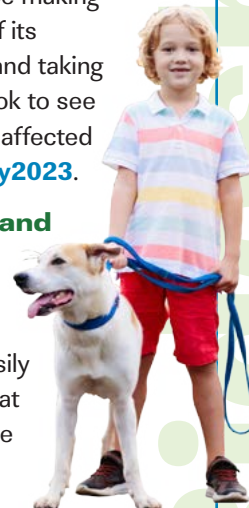
Check it out at [octa.net](https://octa.net), then subscribe to get it delivered to your email inbox.

### February service changes:

OC Bus this month will be making adjustments to several of its routes—rerouting some and taking others out of service. Look to see if your usual bus route is affected at [ocbus.com/February2023](https://ocbus.com/February2023).

### Kids' Pet Parade and Expo sweepstakes:

Enter to win Metrolink tickets to get to this family-friendly event—easily reachable by Metrolink—at [octa.net/metrolink](https://octa.net/metrolink). The **Kids' Pet Parade and Expo** is Feb. 18 in San Juan Capistrano.



### Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Pamela Niemi-Cering, OCCR
- Dale Vermillion, OCPW
- Deanna Parsons, Superior Court



### 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](mailto:rideshare@ocgov.com).



## Don't Forget to Renew Your Club Rideshare Membership

Have you reviewed your Club Rideshare membership yet for 2023?

The Rideshare Office sent emails last month to all current Club Rideshare members to remind you to renew your participation. To thank you for filling out the brief form, you'll get a \$15 bonus in your paycheck.

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. Driving an electric vehicle and the days you telework also count toward your rideshare totals.

**Use this link to complete a renewal application online** or **download a PDF** that you can print out, fill in and submit to the Rideshare Office.

You must renew your membership to continue to qualify for membership benefits, such as the \$25 monthly prize drawings.

TIME TO RENEW

## Students Save 25% on Metrolink Fares

This spring, students of any age are eligible for a 25% student discount. Simply select the student fare type when purchasing your ticket at any Metrolink ticket machine or on the Metrolink Mobile App. A valid Student ID must be available upon fare inspection. Get details at [metrolinktrains.com](https://metrolinktrains.com).



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Email: [rideshare@ocgov.com](mailto:rideshare@ocgov.com)  
Phone: 714.834.7600  
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The Rideshare Office Has Moved!  
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