



# Club Rideshare

July 2023 Newsletter



## New Fiscal Year, New Chances to Get a Ride Home if You Need One

### Did you know...?

You can be reimbursed for a ride on a day you rideshare if you need to get home due to a personal emergency or you miss your ride due to unexpected overtime.

As of July 1, it's new fiscal year. That means that if you claimed the maximum number of Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) rides last year, you get a clean slate.

County of Orange and Superior Court employees can be reimbursed for up to two GRH rides each fiscal year. GRH rides home can be via taxi, Uber/Lyft, car rental, car-sharing, Metrolink or bus.

### How to Qualify for Reimbursement

You qualify if you got to work that day by carpooling, vanpooling, riding the bus or train, biking or walking and need a ride for any of the following reasons:

- Personal or family illness or emergency
- Your carpool/vanpool driver has to leave due to illness or personal emergency
- You or your carpool/vanpool driver have to work unexpected overtime

You don't need to get authorization before arranging your GRH ride. Just fill out a **GRH reimbursement form** and submit it along with your trip receipt to the Rideshare Office. (Please refer to the GRH form for submittal deadlines.) If you're not sure if your emergency qualifies, call the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600.

## Take a Metrolink Daycation & Save

Metrolink is not only a great way to get to work, but it also serves some of

**Southern California's favorite summertime destinations.**

A day pass on Saturdays and Sundays is always \$10. Kids 17 and younger ride free on weekends when accompanied by a fare-paying adult.

*(continued)*

## Getting Help If Your Commute Changes

If you move, your work schedule changes, or your usual rideshare arrangement isn't available, you don't have to revert to the expense and stress of driving alone to work.

The Rideshare Office can provide you with an updated list of options, including potential carpool partners, transit routing and more.

You can also find commute help 24/7 by logging in at [ridematch.info](http://ridematch.info).

## Join OCTA on a Hike

OCTA offers free, guided hikes on some of Orange County's preserves that are permanently protected.

The next hike is Aug. 12, 9-11 a.m. at the Pacific Horizon Preserve. Space is limited, and advanced registration is required.

To sign up, and to see the 2023 calendar of hikes (as well as horse riding excursions) visit [octa.net](http://octa.net).

You can also get a **map of hiking and biking trails** open to the public, as well as safety tips and resources.







Photo courtesy of Metrolink.

### Take a Metrolink Daycation & Save... *(continued from page 1)*

This summer, Metrolink is offering a \$15 weekday day pass, good for travel all day anywhere Metrolink goes.

### Earn Rewards When You Ride

Sign up for Metrolink's So Cal Explorer program and every time you ride, you'll earn points toward future travel. It's easy, and it's free.

Members earn one point per mile. During weekend adventures, you earn 50 points no matter where your trip takes you.

### Avoid Construction Traffic on the I-405

If you drive the 16-mile stretch of I-405 between SR-73 and I-605, you might be wondering if construction there is ever going to end.

The good news: The answer is yes! The project is set to wrap at the end of this year. When complete, it will include two lanes of express toll lanes in both directions, easing traffic congestion on all lanes.

Carpools of three or more people will be able to ride in the time-saving express lanes toll free.

To ease your commute in the meantime, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) offers construction updates.

At [405expresslanes.com](http://405expresslanes.com), you can:

- View construction updates and alerts.
- Sign up for notifications and alerts via email, text or automated call system.

You can also follow the I-405 Improvement Project on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for construction updates and announcements.



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### How Is Today's Air Quality?

Southern California is famous for its smog. Between vehicle emissions, wildfires and other pollutants, the air quality here can sometimes hit unhealthy or dangerous levels.

Now you can check the current air quality conditions at [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).

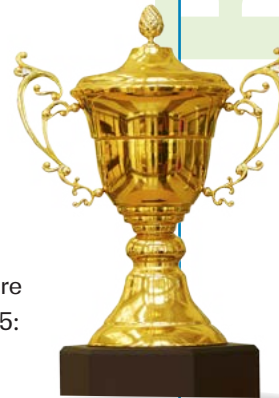
Just plug in the zip code, and you'll get a rating from "good" to "hazardous," along with other data.



### Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Scott Price, HCA
- Cynthia Richter, SSA
- Jeanne Sims, CSS



### 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).



## Club Rideshare

Email: [rideshare@ocgov.com](mailto:rideshare@ocgov.com)  
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Web: <https://hrs.ocgov.com/hr-resources/rideshare>

The Rideshare Office Has Moved!  
**OC Rideshare Program Office**  
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Human Resource Services  
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