



# OC Commuter

News for a better commute from the OC Rideshare Office



## Join Club Rideshare, Earn \$40

If you carpool, vanpool, take the train or bus, drive an EV/PHEV, bicycle or walk to work or telework just 20 times in a 90-day period, you can [join Club Rideshare](#).

New members can earn a \$40 sign-up incentive, plus are eligible for monthly drawings for a \$25 bonus (paid via payroll), special perks and more.

Each year you renew, you get a \$15 bonus.

## New Day Storage Facilities for Bike Commuters

If you bike to work—or would like to give it a try—there is now a safe, convenient place to stow your bike. The County recently installed bike storage facilities that feature secure bike racks. Air compressors are available onsite for flat or deflated tires.

The facilities are located in front of the Central Administration Building North (CAN) and the Central Administration Building South (CAS) near the multi-purpose rooms.

If you have trouble locating them, call the Rideshare Office or ask the lobby personnel for assistance.



## What You Need to Know About Carpooling in Orange County...

If you've been thinking of carpooling to work—or even if you just occasionally share a ride with friends and family—here are some things you need to know:

**"All regular carpool lanes in Orange County are free and open to carpools with a minimum of two occupants. No transponder is required."**

- Using carpool lanes typically saves a minute per mile over driving alone.
- Carpools with three or more people can ride free or at a discount in Orange County's express toll lanes on the 91 and 405 freeways. You must have a FasTrak account and a transponder.
- On the **91 Express Lanes**, carpools are required to drive through the HOV3+ Carpool Lane at each toll point to receive the carpool discount.
- On the **405 Express Lanes**, carpools must have a working transponder set to the number of people in the vehicle.

- All regular carpool lanes in Orange County are free and open to carpools with a minimum of two occupants. No transponder is required.
- Yes, kids count as carpool passengers.

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## ...Carpooling in Orange County... (Continued from page 1)

- Orange County changed from double yellow lines to double white lines to indicate where you cannot cross into a carpool lane. If you see a single solid white line, you can enter/exit the carpool lane, but only if it's safe to do so. Stretches of carpool lane with dashed white lines are the preferred entry/exit points.
- You don't have to worry about getting stuck at work in an emergency or work unexpected overtime on a day you carpoled to work. You can be **reimbursed for the cost of a taxi, rental car or Uber/Lyft** (up to two times a year) through the County's Guaranteed Ride Home program.
- The Rideshare Office can help you find a carpool partner—someone who works and lives near you and has a similar schedule. You can also get a list of potential carpool partners at [ridematch.info](http://ridematch.info) or by calling 511.



## Free Summer Trolleys

Skip the drive and hop on free summer trolleys that take you to destinations around Orange County:

- **The San Clemente Trolley** operates daily until Sept. 30. The system is made up of two routes: a Downtown Red Line and a North San Clemente Blue Line.
- **The Laguna Niguel Trolley** will take riders "from the hill to the sea" all summer long, and at Stop #3 (in front of the Ritz-Carlton Resort), riders can connect with the free trolleys operated by Dana Point and Laguna Beach. The trolley runs Thursday through Sunday every 20 minutes until Sept. 2.
- **The Dana Point Trolley** runs daily through Sept. 5 with two loops that give riders access to coastal cities and allow them to easily transfer between other city-run trolleys.
- **The Balboa Peninsula Trolley** runs Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 2, providing service around the peninsula. It also offers service on Independence Day and Labor Day.

Free shuttles are also available serving routes in **Laguna Beach** and **San Juan Capistrano**.

## Lunch and Learn About an Affordable, Less Stressful Commute Option

The next Lunch and Learn is June 19, 12 to 1 p.m. Tune in to find out if vanpooling might be a less stressful, more affordable way to get to work.

Lunch and Learn virtual workshops are offered every other month by the Rideshare Office.

You don't need to pre-register to attend the Lunch and Learn. Just [click on this link](#) at the start of the workshop to participate.

If you have questions, or to sign up for an email reminder, contact the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600.

### Did You Know...?

Last year, Orange County vanpools...

- Reduced vehicle miles traveled on Southern California roads and freeways by more than 9.8 million
- Reduced fuel consumption by more than 300,000 gallons (equal to the annual energy use of about 1,044 average U.S. homes)
- Reduced emissions by 3,881 tons (equal to the load of 324 garbage trucks)!



## Get E-Bike Safety Tips at a Bike Rodeo

Orange County Transportation Authority is holding **e-bike rodeos** to teach commuters, kids and families safety tips and the rules of the road for riding an e-bike. Bike repairs and maintenance will also be available.

The next rodeo is June 1 in Huntington Beach, along with virtual workshops June 4 and 13.



## Are You Paying Too Much to Board OC Bus?

The most recent Lunch and Learn workshop was all about **the Perk Pass, a way to save money on OC Bus fares.**

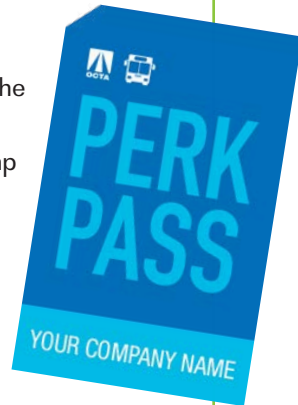
In case you missed the news...

An annual Perk Pass allows you to board OC Bus at the lowest available fare. Each ride costs only \$1.25 per boarding (versus the standard \$2 fare) with a monthly cap of \$69—no matter how many bus trips you take. With a Perk Pass, there's no need to buy monthly passes or daily passes.

To use it, simply swipe your Perk Pass upon boarding. Fares are compiled monthly, and you'll pay your monthly fares automatically via payroll deduction.

The bonus: This also allows you to pay for transit fares using pre-tax dollars, reducing your overall taxable income.

Contact the Rideshare Office for more information or to **sign up**. They'll then mail you an annual Perk Pass and set you up for payroll deduction. You pay nothing upfront.



## BRAVO! Buses Are Now OC Bus Rapid—Fewer Stops for a Faster Ride

OC Bus is changing the name of its BRAVO! limited-stop service. It's now **OC Bus Rapid**, and new buses and signage have been rolling out.

OC Bus Rapid makes a third of the stops of regular bus service, getting riders to their destinations faster.



Buses travel:

**Route 529:** Fullerton to Huntington Beach via Beach Boulevard

**Route 543:** Fullerton Transportation Center to Costa Mesa via Harbor Boulevard

**Route 553:** Anaheim to Costa Mesa via Main Street

**Route 560:** Santa Ana to Long Beach via Westminster Avenue

Fares for OC Bus Rapid are the same as other OC Bus routes.

**You may benefit from riding OC Bus Rapid if you work at one of these County locations:**

- Child Support Services, 1055 N. Main St., Santa Ana
- Social Service Agency, 888 N. Main St., Santa Ana
- Clerk-Recorder North County Branch Office, 201 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
- West Court, 8141 13th St., Westminster
- Vector Control, 13001 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove
- Probation (Administrative Office) 1535 E. Orangewood Ave., Anaheim



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## New Fiscal Year, New GRH Rides

County of Orange and Superior Court employees can be reimbursed for a ride if they need to get home due to an emergency on a day they got to work by ridesharing—up to two rides per fiscal year. Emergency ride options include rental car, taxi, Uber/Lyft, transit or approved car-sharing companies.

Since a new fiscal begins on July 1, if you've claimed the maximum number of rides home this fiscal year, your total number of rides will then reset to zero.

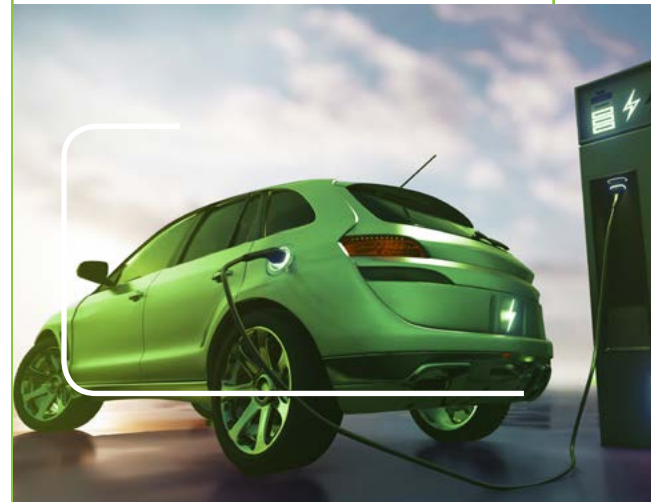
To find out more about the Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program or to claim a reimbursement, [click here](#).

## OC Green Expo

Find out more about electric vehicles—and maybe even test drive one—at the OC Green Expo and EV Test Drive, June 8, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in downtown Anaheim.

The free, family-friendly event features interactive activities, booths with EV information, raffles and prizes.

For details, visit [anaheim.net/greenexpo](http://anaheim.net/greenexpo).



## Metrolink Brings Back the \$15 Day Pass

Metrolink will again offer a hot deal with its special Summer Day Pass—just \$15 for unlimited systemwide travel any day Monday through Friday\*.

It's a great way to give commuting by Metrolink a try at a bargain price.

The Summer Day Pass will be available May 28 through Aug.30 via the [Metrolink mobile app](#) and at ticket machines.

Riders can also purchase a \$10 Holiday Pass for unlimited rides on the Fourth of July.

Look for details at [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com).

*\*The \$15 Summer Day Pass cannot be purchased via payroll deduction.*



## How to Park an EV at County Worksites

Electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are located at the following lots: Manchester Lot, P7 Twin Towers lot, and the County Administration South Building parking structure. Additional EV charging stations are planned in the Civic Center area as County Budget and Energy rebate incentive programs allow.

To use the charging stations, you must set up an account with the ChargePoint vendor and pay for the electricity (per kWh) and any additional charges if they exceed the time limit while charging your EV.

For more information, visit the [OC Public Works Department](#).



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