



Club Rideshare

August 2024 Newsletter



Buy or Lease an EV, Get \$100



If you buy or lease an EV, you may be eligible for a \$100 incentive through the County's **EV rebate program**.

This incentive applies to zero emission, electric or plug-in vehicles.

To qualify, you must submit a **rebate form** to the Rideshare Office within 90 days of purchase or lease date.

Need to Get Home Fast in an Emergency?

Good news: You can get a free ride if you need to get home due to illness, emergency or if you have to work unexpected overtime.

Thanks to the County's guaranteed ride home (GRH) program, you'll never be stuck at work without a ride on a day that you rideshare.

Here, we answer employees' most often-asked questions about claiming a GRH ride:

Q: "Can anyone claim an emergency ride home?"

A: GRH reimbursements are provided to employees if you commuted that day using an alternative to driving alone—whether carpooling, vanpooling, riding transit, biking or walking.

Q: "What type of ride can I use?"

A: GRH options include taxi, rental car, transportation network company (i.e., Uber/Lyft), carsharing company or transit.

Q: "How is it paid for?"

A: You simply arrange and pay for your GRH ride. Then submit a **reimbursement form and trip receipt** within 60 days.

"Thanks to the County's guaranteed ride home (GRH) program, you'll never be stuck at work without a ride on a day that you rideshare."



Metrolink Renews Its Free Student Adventure Pass

Metrolink is extending its Student Adventure Pass program through June 30, 2025.

The pass allows anyone with a valid student ID—including K-12, trade school, college students and student interns—to travel anywhere on the Metrolink system free of charge.

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Metrolink Renews... (from page 1)

The pass program was set to expire June 30, following a successful nine-month pilot period.

For details on how to download the pass via Metrolink mobile app and register for an account, visit metrolinktrains.com.

Congrats Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Andrea Portenier, HCA
- Michele Gorey, DA
- Noelle Cordova, OCSD



E-Bike Safety Goes to the Movies



Local movie theaters are featuring a series of humorous e-bike safety videos created by OCTA. Geared toward parents and kids, they're also a good reminder for commuters to following safety rules on the road.

If you don't catch them at the movies, you can see them [here](#).

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.



Need to Get Home... (from page 1)

Q: "Is there a limit to the number of rides?"

A: You can be reimbursed for two emergency rides per fiscal year (July 1- June 30).

Q: "What qualifies as an emergency?"

A: You can claim a GRH ride due to illness or emergency for yourself, an immediate family member, or if you had to work unexpected overtime. GRH also applies if you'd be otherwise stranded because your carpool/vanpool driver left due to an emergency.

Q: "What does not qualify as an emergency?"

A: GRH cannot be used for non-emergency appointments, voluntary overtime, vehicle troubles, or in the event of public transit delays or natural disasters. Contact the Rideshare Office if you're not sure if your emergency qualifies.

Q: "Does GRH only cover a ride home?"

A: No, you can arrange a ride to a medical facility, daycare/school, or to where a personal vehicle is parked (such as a Park & Ride lot or transit station). Interim stops are also accepted if they're needed to reach your final emergency destination.

Q: "Do I need to get approval before taking my ride?"

A: You aren't required to get pre-approval, though you might want to contact the Rideshare Office if you're unsure whether your emergency qualifies for reimbursement.

For more information, contact the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600, rideshare@ocgov.com, or refer to the [GRH reimbursement form](#).



New Bridge Opening Marks I-5 Project Milestone

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) recently re-opened the new and improved Los Aliso's Boulevard bridge.

It's the latest milestone in the [South County I-5 Improvements Project](#), a 6.5-mile widening project on the I-5 Freeway between SR-73 and El Toro Road.

OCTA expanded sidewalks and bike lanes on the bridge, making it more accessible for people to walk or bike.

Construction on the I-5 project began in mid-2019 and is expected to be completed in early 2025.

Improvements also include:

- Widening the freeway in both northbound and southbound lanes
- Extending the second carpool lane from Alicia Parkway to El Toro Road in both directions
- Converting the carpool lanes to continuous access

Get construction updates at octa.net.



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