



Club Rideshare

January 2025 Newsletter



Renew Your Club Rideshare Membership, Get \$15

It's that time of year to renew your Club Rideshare membership. The OC Rideshare office will be sending out emails by the end of this month to all current Club Rideshare members to renew their participation.

When you renew, you'll get a \$15 bonus in your paycheck—plus you'll continue to qualify for \$25 prize drawings throughout the year.

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.

Contact the Rideshare Office if you have any questions. You can now use this link to [complete a renewal application directly online](#) or [download a PDF that you can print out](#), fill in and submit to the Rideshare Office.

3 Changes Coming in 2025 that Could Impact Your Commute

Plenty of changes are in the works in transportation for the new year. Here are three:

1. Good news for motorists on the I-5...

Construction that began in 2019 to make improvements on the I-5 Freeway is projected to be completed early this year.

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) in

(continued)

New \$2,000 E-Bike Incentive Available

The California Air Resources Board is providing incentives of up to \$2,000 toward the purchase of a new electric bicycle (e-bike).



Some of the funds are earmarked for low-income/disadvantaged applicants as well as those in a defined income range.

To claim a voucher, apply online and provide residency and income verification documents. Prior approval is required before purchasing an e-bike. It is open to residents aged 18 or older.

For more information or to apply, visit ebikeincentives.org.

Ride Free on Transit Equity Day

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

Fares will be free Feb. 4 on Metrolink trains throughout Southern California. All you have to do is simply arrive at the station and board the train *(continued)*





3 Changes Coming in 2025... (from page 1)

cooperation with Caltrans has been **improving I-5 between SR-73 and El Toro Road**. The project covers 6.5 miles of I-5 through Mission Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Hills, and Lake Forest.

When complete, it will include a new general-purpose lane in each direction from Avery Parkway to Alicia Parkway.

Improvements to the carpool lanes are also part of the project. This includes an extension of the second carpool lane from Alicia Parkway to El Toro Road.

Carpool lanes are also being converted to continuous access, making it safer and easier for motorists to enter and exit the lanes at any time.

2. OC Streetcar is slated to open late summer.

OC Streetcar is Orange County's first modern streetcar. It will serve Santa Ana's historic downtown, which includes courthouses, government offices, colleges, restaurants and more.



The streetcar will operate along a 4.15-mile route, connecting with the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center (SARTC) and a new transit hub at Harbor Boulevard and Westminster Avenue in Garden Grove.

There are 16 stops along the route with 10 stops in each direction.

During construction, get discounts and deals at participating merchants as part of OCTA's **Eat, Shop, Play** program.

3. Transportation fringe benefit gets a raise.

You can receive transit and vanpool benefits tax-free up to \$325 a month in 2025.

That's **a \$10 monthly increase over the 2024 transportation fringe benefit**.

The Rideshare Office allows employees to purchase transit fares using payroll deduction.



Ride Free (continued)

(no ticket required) to ride Metrolink all day, anywhere it goes.

Rides are also free for the day on Metro Bus and Rail and Bike Share, OC Bus and all San Bernardino County and Ventura County buses.



Costa Mesa Introduces Free Shuttle

Costa Mesa recently launched **Let's Go Costa Mesa**, an on-demand rideshare service. ADA-accessible 10-passenger vans transport riders within an area around the East 17th Street shopping district.

Vans run weekdays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Download the Ride Circuit app through Apple Store or Google Play, or call the hotline at 949.828.2065, to schedule a pickup.

Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Sandy Lopez, HCA
- Alexa Guzman, SSA
- James Russo, OCPW

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

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