



Club Rideshare

e-Bulletin



A Little Help for Your New Year's Resolutions

When you think of how to keep your New Year's resolutions, you might not think of ridesharing—but people who rideshare actually get a leg up on some of the most common promises made for the new year. Here's how:

- **Getting Fit.** Ridesharers often get more exercise and burn more calories on the commute than people who drive alone.



Whether it's walking to a transit stop, between transfers—or even biking or walking the whole way—ridesharing helps you reach your fitness goals.

- **Saving Money.** If you are able to forgo driving altogether, the savings can be nearly \$10,000 a year.



- **Getting More Done.** Instead of driving, you're using your commute time to do what you need to do—whether that's

reading, texting, catching up on work or even grabbing a nap.

- **Helping Make the World a Little Better.** For every mile you don't drive, on average you keep a pound of pollutants from being spewed into the air. That really adds up. So thank you to our ridesharers, and all the best in the new year from the Rideshare Office.



Renew Your Club Rideshare Membership and Get \$15

It's that time of year again to renew your Club Rideshare membership. The OC Rideshare office will be sending out emails by the end of January 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, bicycled or walked to work 20 or more times over the past 90 days.

However, we are being flexible about membership if you can't rideshare as often due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are also allowing days you work at home to count toward your rideshare totals. Contact the Rideshare Office if you have any questions.

Look for Your Perk Pass

New OC Bus Perk Passes were mailed in December to all OC Bus riders. If you did not receive a card in the mail, please call the OC Rideshare office at 714.834.7600.



OC Flex – What's Extended, What's Suspended

OC Flex in South Orange County has been approved to remain in service through December 2021.

The micro-transit service has been operating since 2018 and allows passengers to request a ride on

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OC Flex—What’s Extended, What’s Suspended (continued from front)

demand through a mobile app within the service area, currently in portions of Mission Viejo, Aliso Viejo and Laguna Niguel.

Masks are required for both drivers and passengers, and the number of riders per vehicle will be limited due to COVID concerns.

The service in Huntington Beach and Westminster was temporarily suspended because of low ridership.

For more information about OC Flex, visit octa.net/ocflex.

Updated CDC Guidelines

The U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) recently updated its guidelines for traveling safely when riding transit or carpooling during the Coronavirus pandemic.

For anyone sharing a ride, they recommend wearing masks. Stay at home whenever possible, especially if you are feeling ill.

For transit riders:

- Avoid touching surfaces.
- Practice social distancing by sitting or standing away from other passengers—including at transit stations.
- Upon leaving, use hand sanitizer (available on all OC Bus vehicles and Metrolink trains or pack your own).



For carpoolers, taxis and shared-ride arrangements:

- Limit the number of passengers in the vehicle to only those necessary.
 - Avoid shared rides where multiple passengers are picked up who are not in the same household.
 - Sit as far away as possible from the driver, such as in the rear seat diagonally.
 - Improve ventilation. Ask the driver to open windows or set the air ventilation to non-recirculation mode.

For details and other travel safety guidelines, visit the CDC at cdc.gov.



“Why I Rideshare”

Michael Taylor started taking Metrolink to where he works in the Probation department to save time on his 40-mile commute from Riverside. “I just got tired of the traffic. I figured it’d be a faster way,” he says. “Plus, I could focus on other things on the train ride in. It gave me an extra two hours a day of reading and studying.”

Although the changes in train schedules due to COVID means he can’t currently ride Metrolink, he looks forward to when he can again. “It’s better than making that drive on the freeway. And it’s a cheaper commute each way. I’m spending less on the ticket than I normally would on gas.”



Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Jacqueline Aguirre, SSA
- Ricardo Vasquez, OCSD
- Marshall Thacker, OCDA



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

Email: rideshare@ocgov.com
Phone: 714.834.7600
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