



Club Rideshare

April Newsletter



Thanks to OC Ridesharers & Teleworkers

From 2019 to 2020, County of Orange employees commuted fewer miles—mostly due to telecommuters working at home, but also thanks to our ridesharers.

That resulted in a whopping 76% decrease in emissions caused by employee commutes.

Thank you for all you do to improve air quality in Orange County!



What's Your Contribution to Clean Air?

If you rideshare or telework, you're driving less and, therefore, helping reduce auto emissions that cause smog.

Just how much are you helping?

Use the Commute Calendar at ridematch.info to log your daily commute. If you rideshare, you'll see how many pounds of emissions each day you're not causing by driving alone.



5 Ways to Celebrate Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22, a day that recognizes what people can do to help the environment. Here, we offer 5 commute-related ways to honor the day:

1. Walk, bike or ride transit to work if you can instead of hopping in the car.
2. When you do need to drive, try "trip chaining"—that is, stringing together errands so you're not always starting a cold engine, which is less efficient.
3. Looking to buy or lease a car? Consider an electric vehicle—you may even qualify for a \$1,500 **Clean Fuel Reward**, as well as a **\$100 bonus** through the County's Rideshare Office.
4. If you're telecommuting, give your car the day off by not using it for errands, if possible.
5. Join Metrolink for an Earth Day celebration—get details at metrolinktrains.com.

Also, on Earth Day, remember to give yourself a well-earned pat on the back for contributing to clean air efforts by ridesharing. On average, for every mile you *don't* drive, you prevent nearly a pound of pollutants from being spewed into the air—and that can really add up.

Learn more about Earth Day, as well as find local and online events, at earthday.org.





Important News if You Ride OC Bus

Due to the Stay-at-Home Order issued last year, OC Bus reduced service due to lowered ridership. It has been gradually restoring routes to meet increasing demand as more people begin to return to work.

Currently, OC Bus service is approximately 70% of what it was prior to the pandemic.

Moving forward, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is seeking public input on what changes to make during the next planned schedule change in June, as well as beyond.

A public hearing on the June service changes will be conducted during the OCTA Board meeting at 9 a.m. on April 26. Public comments can be submitted before 5 p.m. on April 25 by emailing the OCTA Clerk of the Board at boardofdirectors@octa.net.

For more information and to view proposed changes for June, visit octa.net.

Get Ready to Roll for Bike Month

Bike Month is the month of May. Throughout the month, cyclists will have a chance to participate in promotions, as well as special events (both indoors and online).

A few things you can do now to make sure you get the most out of the month:

- **Take your bike in for a tune-up** if you haven't ridden it in a while. Make sure you have a proper, working helmet.
- **If you're thinking of riding your bike in to work, be sure to choose a bike-friendly route.** The roads best for biking aren't always the same as what you'd drive. Apps such as [Map My Ride](#) and [Strava](#) can help you find a route with bike lanes, wider streets and fewer hills.
- **Remember, you don't necessarily have to bike the whole distance.** If you'd like to bike to work but you live too far, consider biking as far as your nearby bus stop or train station. Nearly all Southern California transit providers allow bikes on board or have designated bike racks.

Look for details about Bike Month events in the May issue of *Club Rideshare*, as well as at octa.net/bike.

Club Rideshare

"Why I Rideshare"



For 10 years, Martha Tamayo was part of a three-person carpool—sharing the daily drive to where she works in Civil Small Claims in Newport

Beach. "We'd meet up at a parking lot in Mission Viejo and leave our cars there and take one car," she says.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, however, Martha shifted to at-home work in May, which has been going well. "I have my own workspace. It's really quiet, and easy to concentrate here," she says, adding she hopes to again carpool to work when her department returns to the worksite.

Congratulations Club Rideshare Winners

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

- Raymundo Mendoza, CSS
- Derek Bercher, Alternate Defender
- Martha Tamayo, Superior Court



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
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