



Club Rideshare

OC RIDESHARE PROGRAM

e-Bulletin



A Tax Reminder...



Tax season is upon us! So while you're thinking about taxes (and how you don't want to pay more than you have to), it's the perfect time to make sure you're signed up for tax advantages offered through the Rideshare Office.

If you vanpool or take transit to work, we allow you to purchase your fares through a convenient monthly payroll deduction using pre-tax dollars. By doing so, you can reduce your taxable income—up to the IRS limit of \$260 each month.

For details, contact the [Rideshare Office](#), or fill out and submit the [Voluntary Payroll Deduction Authorization form](#).

IE to the OC for \$3

A new option if you live in the Inland Empire...

Riverside Transit Authority (RTA) launched express service between the IE and Orange County with fares \$3 or less. Buses zip down the 91 toll lanes and feature free Wi-Fi, USB chargers and bike racks.



Commuter Express Route 200 starts at the San Bernardino Transit Center and travels to major Orange County destinations, including the Village at Orange, Disneyland and the Anaheim Convention Center.

Congratulations Club Rideshare Prize Winners

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



February 2018:
 Karen Hagler - Superior Court
 Edward Lee - OCSD
 Richard Lindsay - OCPW

January 2018:
 Jerry Soto - OCSD
 Michael Steinkraus - OCHCA
 Angel Barbosa - SSA

December 2017:
 Albert Garcia - OCHCA
 Gary Schade - OCSD
 TaMera Bethune-Gray - SSA

Try OC Bus for Free

New riders can get two free passes—visit octa.net to sign up. Already ride the bus? Enter to win a 30-day bus pass.





Clean Cars Can Ride in Carpool Lanes a Bit Longer

The decals that allow solo drivers of electric, plug-in hybrid and hydrogen-powered cars to use carpool lanes will expire Jan. 1 of next year. Under a new California law, however, if you have a green or white decal that was issued in 2017 or 2018, you can reapply for a new one that will give you access for four more years.

Decals issued prior to 2017 are not eligible for an extension.

If you're buying a new car in 2019, it may still qualify for a decal, but the expiration date will vary depending on when it was purchased.

The goal is to continue to encourage people to buy EVs, but at the same time avoid overcrowding of carpool lanes.

A "Heads Up" on 405 Construction

Construction will start soon on a 16-mile section of the I-405 Freeway between State Route 73 in Costa Mesa and I-605 near the L.A. County line.

It's part of a 5-year project that Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is calling "the largest in its history" and is geared to ease traffic on one of the nation's busiest freeways. When complete, the project will add express lanes and four new lanes in total, as well as other improvements.

OCTA will start work as early as this month, with more significant construction activities—such as the first paving operations and bridge demolition—expected to begin late summer.

Look for construction updates at octa.net/405improvement.

\$2 Waze Rides to/from Irvine

As a special introductory offer until April 30, Waze Carpool rides to or from Irvine are just \$2 per rider—regardless of how long the trip is.

To catch a ride, download the Waze App, then input where you live and your destination. The app will match you with others going your way and will automatically transfer money to the driver to cover the cost of gas and other expenses.

To find out more, visit Orange County Transportation Authority at octa.net.



"Why I Rideshare"

After a move to Corona, Ta Mera Bethune-Cray with Social Services—a recent winner in the Club Rideshare \$25 raffle—initially drove to work. "I took the 241 toll, and the traffic was horrible," she says.

"One day I sat on that toll road for three hours and thought, 'there's got to be a better way.'"

A friend suggested she try Metrolink—and that's how she's been commuting for 14 years, trimming her travel time to 35 minutes station-to-station. "I know when I'm going to get to work and when I'm getting home," she adds. "It saves me a lot of headaches."



Metrolink Deal of the Month

Show your valid Metrolink pass and get 15% off your food bill



at Masters Kitchen and Cocktail. This former drag car shop turned restaurant is walking distance from the Metrolink Oceanside station and mere blocks from the beach. Get details at metrolinktrains.com.

Have You Moved?

If your home address, work/home phone numbers or email have changed, please let the Rideshare Office know by sending an email to rideshare@ocgov.com.



Club Rideshare

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