



Club Rideshare

e-Bulletin



Ways to Celebrate Earth Day

Earth Day is April 22 — a day that aims to educate and motivate people about helping protect the environment. You can celebrate with free rides on transit, local fairs, festivals and more.

- **Metrolink is offering free rides all day on Earth Day** throughout the Southern California region to introduce people to a cleaner way to get where they're going.
- **Join in on a beach clean up.** Find one near you at coastkeeper.org.
- **Check out an Earth Day event**—including a week of activities at Cal State Fullerton, a hike and renewable energy fair in Irvine, a planting project in Dana Point and many others. An ongoing list of local Earth Day activities is at orangecounty.net.
- **If you're headed to Los Angeles**, you can ride free on Metro Bus and Rail all day April 22.
- **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 help prevent nearly a pound of pollutants from being spewed into the air—and that can really add up.

"Why I Rideshare"

Because they live just blocks from each other, **Amina Naghaway**



Amina Naghaway (right) and her carpool partner

suggested to fellow Social Services Agency employee, Laurie Franklin, that they carpool to the office. "Traffic was horrible. Driving alone, it would take me an hour and a half to get to work."

Now they can hop into carpool lanes on the 22 Freeway—at first cutting about 40 minutes off the commute. When they moved to a new work location in Santa Ana, they continued to share the ride, each taking turns driving for a week.

"It's so fun. My carpool time is my favorite time of the week," says Amina. "I'm always bummed on the days (Laurie) doesn't work because I have to drive by myself."

Gene Seddon carpools with his wife, Michelle—from their home in Corona about 25 miles to where she drops him off at Orange County Sheriff's Department. "Three years ago when I got the job, it turned out we literally worked



Gene Seddon and his wife carpool daily to work

(continued)



Have a Metrolink Question? Text Them!

You can now contact Metrolink with any concerns or questions you may have via text at 1.800.371.5465 (LINK)—especially handy if you're in the Quiet Car or prefer to keep the exchange private.

Feel free to text Metrolink with your general questions, safety concerns or questions about fares or train schedules. Text assistance is available Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. and weekends, 6:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Service provider message and data rates may apply. For more information, visit metrolinktrains.com.



We're Testing the New Metrolink Mobile App

Metrolink recently introduced a mobile app that allows riders to load fare and board using a mobile device. The Rideshare Office is partnering with Metrolink in an effort to make

this app available to County employees who purchase their Metrolink tickets using payroll deduction.

"The process for using the app is different for the County than it is for individuals, so we want to test processes to ensure we can offer mobile ticketing seamlessly to employees," says Denise Van Stratten, ETC for Orange County. "We'll be working with select volunteer employees throughout this month to develop processes in the hope of expanding the mobile ticketing County-wide."

The Rideshare Office will email riders with updates. Look for additional information in upcoming issues of *Club Rideshare*.

It's A Whole New Ballgame

Skip the hassle of driving and head out to cheer on your favorite baseball team by riding the bus or taking rail instead.

The Metrolink Angels Express is only \$7 and drops off riders mere steps from Angels Stadium at the Anaheim ARTIC station. Catch it from Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo or L.A. Union Station to all weekday home games starting at 7:05 p.m.

Heading to a Dodgers' game? The Dodger Stadium Express shuttles game-goers from L.A. Union Station for all home games—and your Dodger ticket is good for the fare.



"Why I Rideshare" (continued from front)

across the street from each other," he says.

They started carpooling for practical reasons like saving money on gas and car maintenance, helping reduce traffic, and getting the annual bonus and other benefits from the OC Rideshare Office.

As it turns out, there's another perk to carpooling with his wife, adds Gene. "We get to spend quality time away from our children to talk as adults."

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:

- Elisa Ma, Probation
- Uyen Phan, Auditor Controller
- Eugene Seddon, OCSD



Bike Rally & Ride

Mark your calendar for the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Bike Rally and Group Ride on May 16 from 7 to 9 a.m. Participants will ride from the Orange Metrolink Station to OCTA offices in Orange to celebrate two-wheeled commuting.

The rally is part of Bike Month in May. Look for more Bike Month events at octa.net/bike.



A Quick Tax Correction:

Last month we mentioned that you can pay for transit and vanpool costs using pre-tax dollars up to \$260 a month—it's actually bumped to \$265 for the 2019 tax year.



Club Rideshare

Email: rideshare@ocgov.com
Phone: 714.834.7600
Web: ocgov.com/hr/rideshare

OC Rideshare Program Office
County of Orange
Human Resource Services
333. W. Santa Ana Blvd., Bldg. 10,
1st Floor

