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**Transportation Survey Results**

Thank you, County of Orange and Superior Court employees, for responding to the 2016 Annual Transportation Survey! Based on the surveys, we can compare commuting patterns from year to year. This is important information for designing plans that will reduce traffic and air pollution in the region. The County is also required to send a summary of the survey results to the South Coast Air Quality Management District along with a description of the OC Rideshare Program.

Image if all employees drove alone to work each day of the week during the peak morning commute traffic. Fortunately, this is not the case. Did you know that only 62% of the home-to-work trips during the survey week are considered drive alone trips? Also, approximately 7% carpool or vanpool, 1.5% use public transit and 1% bike or walk or drive an electric vehicle to work. During the survey week, many employees had days off, worked off-peak hours or worked part-time. The price of gasoline impacts these percentages each year and, with the help of comments from employees, the OC Rideshare Program adjusts the services, support and incentives made available to employees.

Through the survey process, many employees requested to be added to the [Carpool/Vanpool Match List](#) on the secure IntraOC. It includes a map of the entire region and links to the list of employees that begin their commute from your area. Within that, it shows the city where they work. First names and work phone numbers make it easy for you to contact co-workers to discuss carpool or vanpool arrangements.

**Survey Drawing Winner – Terri Williams!**

Each year OC Rideshare randomly selects a winner from the list of employees who submitted their annual transportation survey. The 2016 winner of $200 is Terri Williams with Health Care Agency. Congratulations Terri, and thanks again for submitting your survey.

**Did You Know...**

82% of [Metrolink](#) train riders have an automobile but choose to take the train, creating more room on the region’s freeways.

OCTA helps commuters with their [vanpool plans](#) and also provides an incentive of $400 per month for each eligible vanpool group.

There are hundreds of [connections](#) you can make with your valid Metrolink ticket including city bus, shuttle bus, and light rail.
Expanded Try-Transit-On-Us Incentive

OC Rideshare is excited to announce the expansion of the Try-Transit-On-Us incentive. You can now send us proof-of-purchase for three consecutive months of transit trips rather than only one! If these ticket receipts are for a public transit mode that you have not used to commute to work in the past 90 days, you may be eligible for partial reimbursements totaling 75% of the first receipt, 50% of the second receipt and 25% of the third receipt. This is a one-time per month and one-time per transit mode incentive. Use the All-in-One Form to submit your claim and proof of purchase.

You can purchase transit fares at [www.Metrolinktrains.com](http://www.Metrolinktrains.com) and [www.OCTA.net](http://www.OCTA.net). Both web sites provide details about schedules and how to ride the train or bus. They even have “trip planners” that will take the guesswork out of trying transit!

Purchase Transit Passes with Pre-Tax Dollars!

County of Orange and Superior Court employees can participate in the Commuter Choice program offered through OC Rideshare managed by Human Resource Services. This program allows participants to purchase transit tickets or vanpool vouchers through a convenient monthly payroll deduction using pre-tax dollars up to the amount established by the Internal Revenue Service, thus reducing your taxable income. It’s easy to enroll by using the Voluntary Payroll Deduction Authorization form.

Rideshare Testimonials

“I started taking the Metrolink train from Riverside La Sierra in 2000. I was initially skeptical that it would work out since I sometimes come in to work early or leave later, but I’ve found Metrolink’s schedule to work out well. Taking the train makes the commute much easier as I can catch up on the news on the Internet or nap, or find time to work on my embroidery projects. The train also reduces some stress as I’m not fighting traffic or worrying about being involved in an accident on the freeway.” --- Linda Rachell, County Counsel (2016)

“My previous manager suggested that I try the bus seven or eight years ago. I was hesitant at first; I didn’t know who else would be riding with me, and I did not want to feel vulnerable. However, I have been riding ever since. I have made friends with my bus buddies, I can read or knit or write letters and I don’t have to worry about traffic. I can relax and unwind from work instead of dealing with bad drivers and traffic. I am lucky; I live only three or four blocks from my bus stop so I walk home. My morning bus stop is actually closer than the parking structure I use on days that I drive, plus I don’t have to cross the street to get there. Taking the bus is only five minutes longer than driving and it is a lot cheaper (driving costs $7 a day). I ride the bus because it is more relaxing, cheaper and I have fun with my bus buddies. Maybe you should try it too.” --- Cynthia Schafer, HCA (2016)

“My wife and I are fortunate to work in the same office. Carpooling saves us at least 45 minutes on the drive home on the 405 Freeway, and saves us on the cost of gas for our other vehicle.” --- Jeffery Warren, HCA (2016)
Carpooling Facts

Ridesharing includes several commuting modes in which participants share a vehicle with others such as a carpool, vanpool, train or bus. It also includes active commute modes such as bicycling and walking to work.

Why Carpool?

Carpooling is two or more people driving together who usually take turns driving their own vehicles. Carpoolers spend less time and money at the gas pump, have less wear and tear on their vehicles, can drive in the time-saving carpool lanes, experience less commuter stress while helping the environment. It is much better than driving alone.

How do I find a carpool partner?

Start with the OC Rideshare Program’s Carpool/Vanpool Match List. The match list contains about 600 co-workers that have requested to be included and are serious about finding a carpool partner or a vanpool group to join. The secure list is available on the IntraOC and is available to only County of Orange and Superior Court employees.

If you do not find a match on the County match list, you can use the carpool matching programs that include employees from other companies.

Before starting any carpooling arrangement, it is a good idea for potential carpoolers to meet or speak to work out the details. For example: who drives and when, how often you’ll carpool, pick-up and drop-off points, shared expenses, what if someone is late, arranging a back-up plan, driver duties, smoking rules, etc. Most carpoolers agree that the good company of their fellow carpoolers is a benefit that they really enjoy and hadn’t anticipated. So, agreement on a few simple points will ensure a successful carpool.

Park & Ride Lots

A Park & Ride lot is a parking lot or portion of one with parking spaces designated specifically for commuters to meet up with their carpool or vanpool partners, or catch a bus or train. A Park & Ride lot can have hundreds of spaces or just a small designated area at a church or shopping center parking lot. Many Park & Ride lots are identified by signs on freeways and streets. Most Park & Ride lots are free, although occasionally permits or fees are required.

Guaranteed Ride Home Program

A Guaranteed Ride Home reimbursement program is available for rideshare participants to use if they become stranded at work without a ride home on carpool or rideshare day. They can submit a claim form to request reimbursement for a ride home or to their vehicle under certain emergency situations.
## OC Rideshare Program Incentives – At-A-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incentive (Form)</th>
<th>Who Should Apply</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guaranteed Ride Home</td>
<td>Any employee who has used a ride share mode on the day that a valid emergency situation arises.</td>
<td>Valid emergencies are unplanned situations such as family emergencies, illness, or unscheduled overtime. Planned or scheduled trips are not valid emergencies. Limited to two reimbursed trips per year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpool/Vanpool Match List</td>
<td>Any employee interested in finding a carpool or vanpool match with fellow employees.</td>
<td>Match Lists - Employee contact information is added to the carpool/vanpool match list posted on the IntraOC and shared with other employees. Employees can also register with the regional rideshare agency ride match services through <a href="http://www.ridematch.info">www.ridematch.info</a> or <a href="http://www.go511.org">www.go511.org</a> or by dialing 511.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Try-Transit-On-Us</td>
<td>Any employee who purchases a ticket or pass on a public transit mode not used to commute to work in the past 90 days.</td>
<td>75%, 50%, 25% Reimbursement - Employee will be reimbursed for a ticket/pass by submitting proof of purchase. This is a one-time per month and one-time per mode incentive. For transit schedules and instructions for purchasing passes, go to <a href="http://www.metrolinktrains.com">www.metrolinktrains.com</a> or <a href="http://www.octa.net">www.octa.net</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuter Choice Program</td>
<td>Employees who purchase bus, train or vanpool tickets on a monthly basis through the payroll deduction process.</td>
<td>Tax Savings - This program allows the use of pretax dollars (up to the amount established by the IRS) per month on approved commuting options (reducing your taxable income). Commuter Choice Program Guidelines are provided on the Voluntary Payroll Deduction Authorization Form.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start-A-Vanpool</td>
<td>Any employee that leases a vanpool vehicle for sharing the commute ride with at least three other County of Orange employees.</td>
<td>$300 + $300 - The employee leasing the van receives a $300 incentive three months after lease is signed, automatic enrollment in Club Rideshare and another $300 at six months. Vanpool must be in use during each consecutive three-month period. Must provide the roster, route and vehicle lease information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get-A-Charge-On-Us</td>
<td>Any employee that leases or purchases an electric vehicle or PHEV within the last 90 days to commute to work.</td>
<td>$100 - The employee who has leased or purchased an electric vehicle or a PHEV will receive $100 and automatic enrollment in Club Rideshare by submitting a copy of the lease or proof of purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Rideshare</td>
<td>Any employee who carpools, vanpools, walks, bikes, rides the bus or train at least 20 work days in a three-month period.</td>
<td>$40 * - Register for the first time and track 20 rideshare event dates. Members can renew annually for a $15 incentive. New and renewing members are eligible to win monthly drawings for $25. Refer a new member for $10 when they enroll. Members will receive a special monthly e-Bulletin previewing special discounts, alerts and fun things for rideshare participants. Members will receive an annual renewal notice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2/day Incentive and RidesharePlus</td>
<td>Any employee living in the Inland Empire (western Riverside County and San Bernardino County) as these incentives are funded by those counties.</td>
<td>Gift Cards - $2 per day for new rideshare participants for the first 3 months. Continuing rideshare participants may be eligible for a special Entertainment Book containing discount coupons. Apply on line at <a href="http://www.iecommuter.org">www.iecommuter.org</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTA Vanpool Lease Reduction</td>
<td>Any vanpool group that meets the criteria established by OCTA.</td>
<td>$400 Discount - Vanpool groups can get a reduction in the monthly lease amount up to $400 per month. Forms and guidelines are provided by the vanpool leasing company and OCTA - <a href="http://www.octa.net">www.octa.net</a> for details.</td>
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</tbody>
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