

OC Commuter

News for a better commute from the OC Rideshare Office



Catch Free Trolleys to OC's Summer Destinations

Skip the drive and hop on free summer trolleys that take you to destinations around Orange County:

- **The San Clemente Trolley** operates daily until Sept. 30. The system is made up of three routes between Camino Estrella to Cristianitos Road that take riders to beaches, shopping and other attractions.
 - **The Laguna Niguel Trolley** will take riders "from the hill to the sea" all summer long, and at Stop #3 (in front of the Ritz-Carlton Resort), riders can connect with the free trolleys operated by Dana Point and Laguna Beach. The trolley runs Thursday through Sunday every 20 minutes until Sept 1.
 - **The Dana Point Trolley** runs daily through Sept. 1 with two loops that give riders access to coastal cities and allow them to easily transfer between other city-run trolleys.
 - **The Balboa Peninsula Trolley** runs Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 2, providing service around the peninsula. It also offers service on Independence Day and Labor Day.
 - **The San Juan Capistrano Trolley** operates weekends through Labor Day weekend with connections to Metrolink.
- Free shuttles are also available serving routes in **Laguna Beach**.

Lunch and Learn About Metrolink and Special Summer Promotions

The next Lunch and Learn is June 11, 12 to 1 p.m. Tune in to learn how Metrolink can save you time on the commute, as well as discover money-saving incentives and summer promotions.

Lunch and Learn virtual workshops are offered every other month by the Rideshare Office.

You can now pre-register to attend the Lunch and Learn by [clicking this link](#).

If you have questions, or want to sign up for an email reminder, contact the Rideshare Office at 714.834.7600.



New Contact Info for the Rideshare Office

In coordination with the change of the County website address, you can now find rideshare services information at hrs.oc.gov/rideshare.

The new email address for the Rideshare Office is rideshare@ceo.oc.gov.



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Now It's Easier to Find Your Best Commute Options

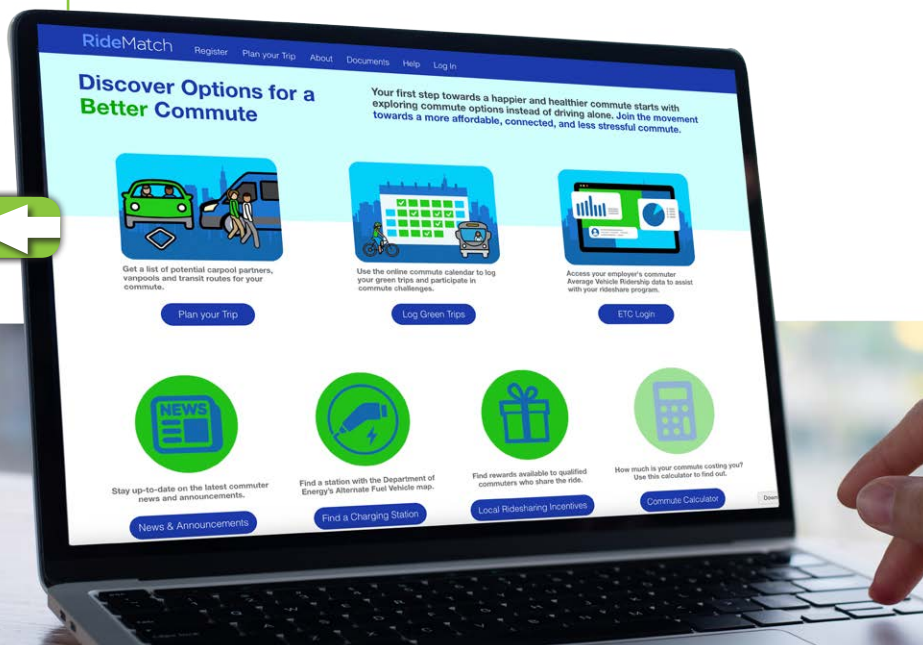
Introducing...the new and improved ridematch.info!

The regional rideshare database recently underwent a bit of a facelift, so now you can easily find your best alternatives to driving alone.

A user-friendly design makes it convenient to navigate the sites features, which include:

- Customized lists of potential carpool or bicycling partners—people who live and work near you and work a similar schedule
- Available seats on vanpools
- Instant transit routing, including Metrolink and commuter express bus options
- EV charging station locations
- A cost calculator that allows you to discover how much you're spending on the commute and ways to save money

You can also learn about special incentives and promotions available to commuters.



LAX/Metro Transit Center

LAX/Metro Transit Center Expands Travel Options to LAX

Big news: The much-anticipated LAX/Metro Transit Center will open June 6.

Located at Aviation Boulevard and 96th Street, the LAX/Metro Transit Center offers riders dozens of convenient transit connections to Los Angeles World Airport (LAX)—one of the busiest airports in the nation.

The station serves two light rail lines—the C and K lines—as well as several Metro and partner agency bus lines, including the LAX FlyAway buses.

The station also features a bus plaza, bicycle parking restroom, customer service center and a passenger pick-up/drop-off area.

Ultimately, it will include a direct connection to the airport via the LAX Automated People Mover, expected to open early next year.

Find out more at Metro's The Source.

Live in the IE? Join a Carpool or Vanpool & Win

This summer, join a carpool or vanpool originating in San Bernardino or Riverside counties and you could win any of \$1,000 in monthly prizes including gift cards and transponders.

Simply log into or sign up for an account at IECommuter.org where you can generate a list of potential carpool partners and vanpools. Once you start ridesharing, log your trips to qualify for the prize drawing.





Profile: OC Bus Rapid Route 560— Santa Ana to Long Beach

You may be able to shave time off the commute while also skipping the stress of driving on an OC Bus Rapid route line. These buses make fewer stops, getting riders to their destinations faster.

Here, we take a look at Route 560, which has stops near several County buildings in Santa Ana, including main administrative and Superior Court buildings.

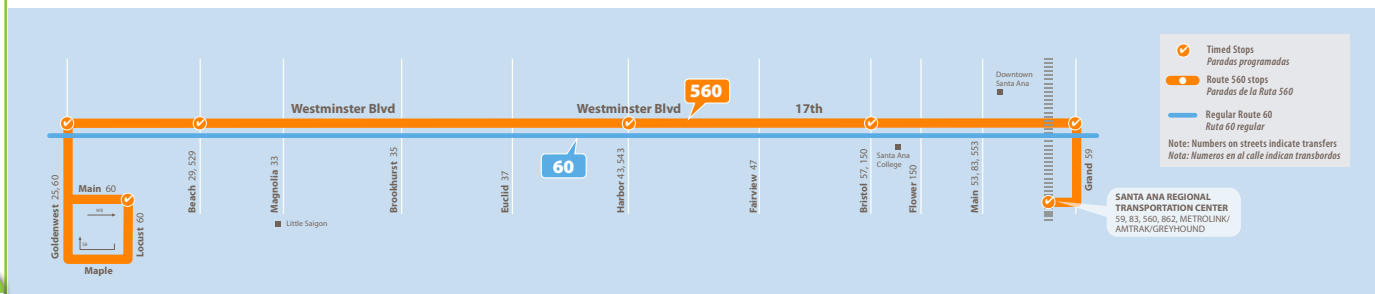
Where it travels: Rapid Bus Route 560 travels between Westminster and Santa Ana, serving 12 stops along Westminster Blvd/17th Street. In addition to County work centers, key destinations include Little Saigon, Santa Ana College and Downtown Santa Ana.

Frequency: It runs 6 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. daily, with buses every 24 minutes.

Connections: Route 560 serves the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center so you can transfer to/from Metrolink, Amtrak or Greyhound, as well as regional bus routes.

It also connects to Route 529 at Beach Blvd., Route 543 at Harbor Blvd., and Route 553 at Main Street—along with 17 regular OC Bus routes.

Find out more at octa.net/rapid.



A Sneak Peek at the OC Streetcar

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) recently unveiled the first vehicle that will operate on the OC Streetcar system—a sneak peek at what will be the county's first modern, electric streetcar.

It's one of eight cars that will roll out on the line, each designed to carry up to 211 passengers at speeds up to 44 m.p.h. Streetcars will run every 10 to 15 minutes.

The OC Streetcar travels on a 4-mile route with 10 stations between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove.

It serves some of the most densely populated neighborhoods in the county, Downtown Santa Ana and the Civic Center. Riders can connect with Metrolink rail service, OC Bus and other transit services.

The track for the streetcar project is finished along the entire route and, overall, the project is approximately 92% finished. Operations are slated to begin in spring 2026.

For more information about the project, visit ocstreetcar.com.



Did You Know...?

You can be reimbursed for the cost of a ride if you need to get home due to illness or emergency on a day you carpooled, vanpooled, rode transit, biked or walked to work.

The County's **Guaranteed Ride Home** program allows up to two rides per fiscal year via taxi, Lyft/Uber or transit.



New Fares, Better Train Tracking on Metrolink

Metrolink announced that it is rolling out some changes designed to make riding the train more affordable and convenient.

Better Train Tracking

Metrolink launched a new alerts tool last month that makes it easier for riders to track real-time train arrivals and service interruptions. That means you can spend less time waiting at the station wondering if your train is running on time.

Sign up to receive notifications via text or email that are specific to the route you usually ride.

New Fare Structure

Metrolink is introducing a new pilot fare structure on July 1 which is slated to run through Dec. 31. Here's what's changing:

Reduced Fares: The price of monthly passes will decrease on average about 10%. They will remain the most cost-effective option for people who ride the train at least three times a week. (County employees can save even more when they pay for their pass using payroll deduction.)

New Passes: Metrolink is introducing a SoCal Day Pass that offers unlimited rides for \$10 on weekends and \$15 on weekdays. An LA Zone Pass will be \$5 for rides all day between select stations near downtown Los Angeles.

- **Streamlining Pass Options:** The round-trip, 10-Day Flex and 7-Day Flex pass options will be discontinued. The 5-Day Flex Pass will still be available.

In addition, the Student Adventure Pass program will sunset on June 30 and be replaced with a 50% discount. Other everyday discounts won't change, and veterans will qualify for a 10% discount.

Find out more at metrolinktrains.com.

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OC Green Expo

Find out more about electric vehicles—and maybe even test drive one—at the OC Green Expo and EV Test Drive, June 7, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in downtown Anaheim.

The free, family-friendly event features interactive activities, booths with EV information, raffles and prizes.

For details, visit anaheim.net/greenexpo.



Buy or Lease an EV, Get \$100

You may qualify for a \$100 bonus incentive when you lease or purchase a zero emission, EV or plug-in EV. To claim your bonus, turn in the [EV request form](#) within 90 days of purchase/lease.

This is a one time only incentive and includes hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

You may also be able to claim an additional \$40 incentive when you join Club Rideshare after tracking at least 20 days in which you commute by EV or ridesharing as well as teleworking.



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Web: <https://hrs.oc.gov/rideshare>

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