

# On the Go *for Commuters*

NEWS FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUTERS

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## “Why I Rideshare...”



**Tawnya Betancourt**,  
FirstSouthwest

**The commute:** Vanpools  
28 miles between Long  
Beach and Santa Monica.

**How she started:** Before moving to Long Beach in 2011, she heard about what a nightmare traffic could be so she started looking for possible carpool partners. She got enough takers that she worked with her building's management to form a vanpool instead.

**Why she rideshares:** “Basically, I like not having to drive every day,” Betancourt says. Plus her company provides a parking cash-out. **“Instead of paying \$185 for parking, they pay for the vanpool, so it comes out free.”**



**Ramon Zavala**, UC Irvine

**The commute:** Bikes four miles to work nearly every day.

**How he started:** When he got a temp job in UCI's sustainable transportation department promoting low-pollution options to others, he wanted to “walk the walk” so he got a bike.

**Why he rideshares:** “I am way too lazy to do something as boring and repetitive as exercise—I need to integrate it into another part of my life, and that's my commute,” Zavala says. He's not only lost weight while eating more, but he saves money, too. **“I don't like spending money on things I don't need.”**



**Alice Gonsalves**, Inland Empire Health Plan

**The commute:** Carpools 55 miles one-way to work in Rancho Cucamonga.

**How she started:** She began carpooling two years ago—and with such a lengthy commute, is it a surprise she wanted to ease the stress of traffic by having someone to talk to and help out with the driving?

**Why she rideshares:** **She loves it and says she pledges to continue to carpool every day.**

## Transit News...

### YeeHaw

The Orange and Ventura county fairs run until Aug. 10,

and you can avoid the hassle of driving and parking by riding the bus. VISTA bus can take you there in Ventura, and the OC Fair Express is only \$2, with a \$3 admission deal (a \$9 savings), [goventura.org](http://goventura.org), [octa.net](http://octa.net).



### TAP to Go

Through Dec. 1, you can load your Metro 30-Day Pass onto your TAP card from your mobile phone. To do it, text TAPSIGNUP to 28950, look for a reply with links, and then follow the prompts. For details, visit [metro.net](http://metro.net).

### Fare Increase

Omnitrans fares will increase for the first time in five years on Sept. 2, with the price of a one-way bus fare going from \$1.50 to \$1.75, the day pass from \$4 to \$5 and a 31-day pass from \$47 to \$55, [omnitrans.org](http://omnitrans.org).



### MetroLink Weekend Service

Inland Empire travelers now have additional options to reach destinations in Orange and Los Angeles counties, with MetroLink 91 Line weekend service offering four trains running between Downtown Riverside and Los Angeles. With this added service, San Bernardino Line weekend trains 351, 367, 364, and 376 will no longer start or end at the Riverside-Downtown MetroLink station, [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com).



On the Go for Commuters is a service of your county transportation agencies