

### AREA OF BENEFIT

All 34 Orange County cities and the County of Orange

# AT A GLANCE

**FUNDING:** Federal, state and

local funding

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# **OVERVIEW**

OCTA's Rideshare Program was implemented in 2003 and is dedicated to aiding commuters in Orange County with finding and using alternative modes of transportation including bus, train, vanpool, carpool, biking, walking and telework. OCTA establishes relationships with Orange County employers by offering services such as Average Vehicle Ridership surveying that assist them in meeting air quality mandates under the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Rule 2202. In addition, OCTA provides support for two employer programs, the Perk Pass for bus service and the Metrolink Corporate Partner Program, that offer discounted transit options for employees. To engage the public, OCTA promotes ridesharing throughout the year with special engagement opportunities during Bike Month (May), Dump the Pump (June) and Rideshare Week (October).

#### PERK PASS

The Perk Pass Program allows employers with ten or more bus riders the ability to provide bus passes to their employees at a highly discounted rate. Each ride costs only \$1.25 per boarding instead of the full price rate of \$2.00, with a maximum monthly cost of \$69 per person. OCTA tracks usage and sends out one simple monthly billing statement. Employers can choose to subsidize all or part of the cost or pass it on to employees.

# METROLINK CORPORATE PARTNER PROGRAM

The Metrolink Corporate Partner Program provides affordable Metrolink train tickets that can reduce employee transportation costs and stress levels. Employees purchase their Monthly, 7-Day Pass, or Round-Trip Tickets through their employer and typically receive a tax incentive or employer subsidy.

# **GUARANTEED RIDE HOME**

The regional Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) Program provides a safety net which allows employees to rideshare to work without the worry of being stranded due to illness, unexpected overtime or other emergencies. GRH ensures that ridesharing employees will be reimbursed up to two times per year for a taxi ride or Transportation Network Company (e.g. Uber, Lyft, etc.) trip home.

# **AVERAGE VEHICLE RIDERSHIP SURVEY SERVICES**

The Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR) survey provides an understanding of organizational commuter patterns and what ridesharing opportunities may best fit an employer. The AVR survey is also an essential part of maintaining South Coast AQMD and Rule 2202 standards. Any Orange County company is eligible to receive free service support services through OCTA.

# **TELEWORKING**

Teleworking, sometimes known as telecommuting, is the practice of working from home instead of traveling to a centralized workplace, office, or other facility. This work-from-home trend is gaining popularity and eliminates commuting on days when it occurs. Some employers offer teleworking to workers full time, while others do so on a part-time basis. Telework reduces vehicle trips and can help employers meet air quality mandates.



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