

# Rideshare Review

A bimonthly publication from Capitol Rideshare

September/October 2019



## October is Rideshare Month: commit to an alternate mode for a chance to win 4 tickets to the state fair!

*Must be a Commuter Club member; winners chosen at random on Oct. 16!*

To raise awareness about commuting alternatives, Capitol Rideshare is celebrating Rideshare Month in October by rewarding four Commuter Club members with a four-pack of tickets to the state fair! Winners will be chosen at random from among employees who are current Commuter Club members, so **be sure to sign up before Oct. 16!** If you use an alternate mode at least twice a week, you are eligible for Commuter Club membership. October a great time to re-think using alternate modes, which include:



**Transit:** state employees receive a 50% subsidy on the [Platinum Pass](#), the fare card used on buses and light rail.

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**Carpooling:** state employees who [carpool](#) three or more days a week can apply for a Rideshare parking permit, allowing them to park in reserved Rideshare parking (where available).

**Vanpooling:** employees who [vanpool](#) will receive a \$30 monthly subsidy toward the cost of the vanpool.

**Electric Vehicle:** employees who drive EVs can apply for a Rideshare parking permit.

**Bike/walk:** Take a look at [resources](#) for employees who incorporate biking or walking into their commutes, including a [discounted GRID bike](#) share account.

**Telework:** Telework is a management option that allows qualified state employees to work from home, or a state office location closer to home, one or more days a week. [Learn more](#) to see if this option works for you and your supervisor.

## Join Commuter Club today!

There is no cost to join; membership is open to State of Arizona employees in Maricopa County (non-university) who use an alternate mode twice a week. Benefits include free emergency ride home from work via Uber or Lyft twice each fiscal year for qualifying emergencies (restrictions apply). **Lyft also provides seasonal discounts: Commuter Club members just received a discount code in their profile dashboards to celebrate Rideshare Month!** Please register through the [online Commuter Club portal](#); the [quick reference guide](#) will assist you with your enrollment. Please use your work email address when setting up your profile.

### Contact:

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100 N. 15th Ave.  
Suite 305  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602.542.RIDE  
RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov  
CapitolRideshare.az.gov

## Back by popular demand! 2020 Capitol Rideshare calendars have been sent to agency travel reduction coordinators

Capitol Rideshare has produced a one-page 2020 calendar that features information about the state’s electric vehicle charging stations, state pay cycles and state holidays. Capitol Rideshare staff has sent the calendars to each agency travel reduction coordinator. The coordinators will distribute the calendars to their employees who are members of Commuter Club first, then share any remaining calendars with other agency staff. The coordinators received a list of Commuter Club members, but if you recently joined, you will need to contact your coordinator directly. The current list of travel reduction coordinators can be downloaded from the [coordinator’s page](#) on the Capitol Rideshare website.

**Please contact your agency travel reduction coordinator with calendar requests; Capitol Rideshare staff will not send calendars to individual employees.**

## Maricopa County has two options for clean-burning fireplace retrofits

With cold weather just around the corner (really!), now is a good time to consider clean-burning alternatives to wood-burning fireplaces. The Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) administers a program designed to reduce air pollution from wood-burning fireplaces. The program offers two options:

1. If a home already has an existing gas meter from Southwest Gas, the program will provide **a voucher for up to \$2,000** to cover the cost of the installation of a natural gas log set. This option allows you to burn a fire on no-burn days.
2. The program will, **at no charge to the homeowner**, retrofit a wood burning fireplace with an air pollution reduction device. This option results in a 70 percent smoke reduction—but you cannot use it on a no-burn day.

The program has a geographic limit: the program boundaries are Baseline Road to Northern Avenue and 59th Avenue to 16th Street (see map, right). There are other eligibility requirements and restrictions. To learn more about the program, homeowners in the designated program area should visit the MCAQD’s [Fireplace Retrofit Program](#) web page.



## Nissan offers up to \$3,500 rebate on 2019 LEAF electric car

Have you been on the fence about buying an electric car? Now might be a great time!

In an effort to accelerate electric vehicle transportation alternatives throughout the United States, Nissan North America, Inc. is offering Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Emission Test Receipt holders a special opportunity to purchase the 100 percent electric Nissan LEAF. To receive the offer, bring to your participating Nissan dealership (i) a [copy of this flyer](#), (ii) proof of eligible residency, and (iii) your current ADEQ Emissions Test with the State of Arizona. These items must be presented at the time of purchase; offer expires January 2, 2020.

## Already have an electric vehicle? Charge at work at select locations!

State employees who have invested in electric (EV) or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV) have options for charging these vehicles during the work day. ChargePoint has multiple electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS) at (or near) many state worksites, including properties in the Capitol Mall area. The state is working to install additional EVCSs in the current fiscal year.

ChargePoint's website features an interactive map detailing where charging stations are located and the associated costs. Drivers set up an account with ChargePoint; users can order a card or download an app onto their smartphones, which will allow them to plug in and use the charging stations. User fees vary by location. The fees at the Capitol Mall stations are \$1.50/hour for the first three hours and \$5.00/hour after. The higher rate serves as a deterrent to a single employee monopolizing the charging station. The app will alert the user when their charging time is done.

## Help fight transit fraud

A reminder for employees who have a Platinum Pass: employees are responsible for all charges incurred on their Platinum Pass until they notify their human resources department, in writing, that the pass is lost or has been stolen. The Platinum Pass may be used only by the employee to whom it was issued.

### Steps to prevent fraud:

- Always keep your Platinum Pass secured.
- Check your paystub for charges, even when you have not used your pass.
- NEVER loan your pass to anyone else.
- Report your pass missing immediately (in writing) by contacting your human resources liaison.
- Follow up with HR to ensure your missing pass has been replaced (Capitol Rideshare can check this as well).

Please be sure to contact Capitol Rideshare staff with any questions at [RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov](mailto:RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov) or 602.542.7433.

## Emergency Ride Home service is available only to Commuter Club members

Capitol Rideshare provides a free emergency ride home (ERH) twice per fiscal year for unexpected emergencies (restrictions apply). To receive the emergency ride home service, you must be a currently registered member of Commuter Club. Free membership is available to non-university state of Arizona employees working in Maricopa County who use an alternate mode at least twice a week (transit, carpool, vanpool, telework, bike, walk, or use of zero emission vehicle).

To check whether you have an account, or to sign up for [Commuter Club](#), please visit the [online portal](#). Guidance for enrolling in Commuter Club can be [found online](#). Capitol Rideshare will not honor requests for ERH unless the employee is registered!

## Coordinator's Corner

### Updated Platinum Pass resource guide now available

A new *HRIS Resource Guide: Agency Transit Cards* document has been uploaded to TraCorp. The document includes information Platinum Pass processors need to properly manage passes for their agencies. The [HRIS Resource Guide: Agency Transit Cards](#) has been posted to the coordinator page on the Capitol Rideshare website. Please refer to this guide when issuing, replacing or canceling a transit card for employees in your agency.

### Platinum Pass replacements:

#### Be sure to follow proper procedures—or employees could pay double

When your employees report a missing Platinum Pass, you must follow the proper procedures to assign a new card or the employee will be paying fares for both cards. An employee can request a new card by completing the Platinum Pass GAO-624 form and selecting the “Replacement” box. The agency should assign a replacement card. The charges from the old card will be combined with charges from the replacement card up to the monthly maximum amount. Canceling the old card and assigning a new card (not using the replacement process) will prevent the charges from being combined; each card will have the maximum amount applied. Please refer to the new *HRIS Resource Guide: Agency Transit Cards* for details.

### New Employee Orientation brochures

Capitol Rideshare brochures are available for inclusion in new hire packets. To order brochures, please send an email with your request to [RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov](mailto:RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov).

Capitol Rideshare is administered by the Arizona Department of Administration Office of Grants and Federal Resources; it is funded by the Federal Highway Administration through the Maricopa Association of Governments and by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

Editor: Mary Marshall

## Reminders

### Visit Capitol Rideshare at the Benefits Expos

Capitol Rideshare will host a table at the various Benefits Expos this year (locations and dates below). Stop by and learn more about our programs!

ADOA Phoenix	10/17/19
ADEQ	11/01/19
ADOT	11/07/19

### Reduce commute costs with Platinum Pass

The state offers a transit subsidy to employees who sign up for the Platinum Pass for use on Valley Metro bus and light rail; there is no fee to apply for the pass. The current subsidy rate is 50 percent of the fare, up to half the cost of a monthly pass. Learn more about this program on [Capitol Rideshare's website](#).

### 2019 Valley Metro holiday schedule

The holiday season will soon be here. Employees who take transit are advised to check the [2019 Valley Metro Holiday Schedule](#).

### 2020 Valley Metro calendar art contest

Local third grade students are asked to create artwork for [Valley Metro's 15th annual Cool Transit STUFF art contest](#). The winning designs will be featured in Valley Metro's 2020 Transit Education Calendar. **Deadline: Oct. 18!**

### New Peoria Park-and-Ride now open

Attention West Valley commuters! Valley Metro and the city of Peoria [opened the Peoria Park-and-Ride](#) (PNR) on Sept. 23, 2019 for riders and commuters. This PNR is in the heart of Peoria's downtown area at 83rd Ave. and Peoria Ave., next to Grand Ave. This PNR will connect you to Routes 83, 106 and Grand Ave. Limited.

### Tell us how we're doing!

Have you recently contacted us with a request for information or service? Please complete this [brief online survey](#).



**CAPITOL  
RIDESHARE**

*Ride smarter. Breathe easier.*