

Rideshare Review

A bimonthly publication from Capitol Rideshare

November/December 2018



Earn while you commute: one employee's creative solution for sharing the ride and earning on the way

GAO employee Cristi Cost lives in the east valley and was looking for a time-and-money conserving way to commute to and from work. She came up with a creative solution: she would sign up to drive for Lyft, the ridesharing service, which would allow her to earn while she was commuting to and from work. Capitol Rideshare asked her about this decision and how it's working out for her.

Q: What made you decide to earn while you carpool?

A: The bus schedule is hard to fit into my schedule, so 95% of the time, I drive alone. Gas prices are going up and we all need help paying for gas, right?

Q: What was the process for signing up to drive for Lyft?

A: You can go to the Lyft website or download the Lyft driver app. It is free to sign up. You will need to upload pictures of your driver's license, insurance, registration and agree to a background check. While they are running your background (which can take two days to two weeks in some cases), you schedule an appointment at the Lyft Hub to have your vehicle inspected. This inspection is an annual thing.

Overall, it took me four days to be approved. I applied on a Friday and had my vehicle inspected on Monday, and I was approved to drive Tuesday afternoon. Just make sure you have a clean car that has at least four doors and is less than 10 years old. No trucks, sorry.

Q: What challenges have you encountered?

A: The airport. There are designated areas for drop off/pick up and it is a \$135 fine if you are caught waiting outside of those areas. Travelers that do not read the signs posted will book a Lyft ride and I have had to circle the airport a couple of times because you can't just park permanently at the rideshare spot looking for a rider.

Q: What has been the best aspect of this decision?

A: I decided to try this option because another driver mentioned that there was a destination mode option on the app. If I am at work and I need to get home to Chandler, I plug in my address and Lyft (using Google Maps) will plot out the most likely path I will drive to get there. The app will then search for riders that need to be picked up and dropped off along that same path. I am currently in week six of my experience and it is working out very well.

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Help fight transit fraud! Employees are responsible for charges to their Platinum Passes

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:

- 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, too).
- Commuter Club members can (and should) check their usage (see article below for more detail).

Contact Capitol Rideshare with any questions at RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov or 602.542.7433.

Commuter Club members can monitor their monthly Platinum Pass activity through their member dashboard

Employees who use an alternate mode of transportation, including using their subsidized Platinum Pass for public transit, are eligible for free Commuter Club membership. Along with the stated benefits (two free emergency rides home and seasonal discount codes from Uber and Lyft), members who used their Platinum Pass also have an interactive dashboard that can be populated with monthly rider data. Once the employee has signed up and been approved for membership, he/she can link their Platinum Pass to their [Commuter Club account via the online portal](#). This feature allows employees to monitor their usage. Please note: the bus pass data is not live; this is a dataset that is uploaded each month and provides detailed usage for the previous month.

The screenshot shows a web interface for managing a Platinum Pass. On the left is a navigation menu with items like 'Dashboard', 'Linking', 'Account', 'Account Settings', 'Account Security', 'Account Privacy', 'Account Security', and 'Account Password'. The main content area is titled 'Platinum Pass' and contains a form with the following fields:

- Platinum Pass # (if known):** A text input field containing '353123' with a search icon.
- How many days a week do you typically utilize the bus?** A text input field containing '4'.
- Route # typically used**: An empty text input field.

Below the form is a blue 'Submit' button. Underneath is a table displaying usage data for the pass number 353123:

Bus Card Number	Bus Type	Route	City	Date ↓	Time ↓	Cost
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/27/2018	17:22:16	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/25/2018	7:08:55	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/25/2018	17:11:13	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	480		9/24/2018	7:02:32	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/24/2018	17:12:37	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	400		9/23/2018	6:59:01	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/23/2018	17:13:57	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/19/2018	6:55:13	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/19/2018	17:18:29	3.25
353123	EXPEXP	450		9/18/2018	6:57:55	3.25

At the bottom of the table is a pagination control showing page numbers 1 through 13, with page 4 selected.

Employees using Platinum Passes who sign up for the Commuter Club can link their passes to their Commuter Club accounts and can monitor their usage through the dashboard feature (screenshot above).

Valley Metro celebrates the holiday season with Polar Express and invites you to celebrate Railversary, 10 years of light rail!

Santa and his singing elves will visit the valley December 14 and 15 via the [Valley Metro Light Rail Polar Express](#)! Light rail trains, decked out in holiday decorations, will provide short rides to and from two stations in Phoenix and Mesa, where cookies await the travelers! This event is free and open to the public.

Polar Express dates:

Dunlap and 19th Ave., Phoenix
Dec. 14, 2018 | 6 - 10 PM

Main St./Mesa Dr., Mesa
Dec. 15, 2018 | 6 - 10 PM



Celebrate Railversary!

Grab your family and friends on Thursday, Dec. 27 for free rail rides, then head to the Talking Stick Resort Arena for the Railversary celebration! The event will feature live music, giveaways, entertainment, family-friendly zones and more! A featured art exhibit blends the colorful rhythm of light rail with highlights that demonstrate the positive impact it's had on the region. Visit valleymetro.org/railversary for details.

Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018 | 5 - 10 PM
Talking Stick Resort Arena, Plaza & Pavilion
201 E. Jefferson St., Phoenix
Free Admission



Earn while you commute, from p. 1

Q: Would you recommend it to others?

A: Absolutely! It's a modern 21st century approach to carpooling. I have the option to turn it on or off any time I want, and I earn money for driving the same route to work I would have driven anyway. Win-win! Just make sure you fill out a Secondary Employment Form once you are approved so you do not violate any workplace policies.

Capitol Rideshare did not produce 2019 calendars; GAO calendars available online

In previous years, Capitol Rideshare produced and distributed one-page calendars, which were distributed to Commuter Club members. These calendars have been discontinued. Employees may download and print [GAO payroll calendars \(link\)](#), which are available on the GAO website.

Coordinator's Corner

Platinum Pass processing training packet sent out

Capitol Rideshare staff recently sent out Platinum Pass processing packets. **PLEASE NOTE: When an employee changes employment from one state agency to another state agency and will continue to use his/her Platinum Pass, the pass must not be canceled.** The billing for the pass is tied to the employee's EIN; the employee will have his/her agency information updated in HRIS. If the employee's previous agency cancels the card and he/she has a new card issued at the new agency, the employee (and Capitol Rideshare) will be billed for both cards. Contact Rideshare staff if you have questions regarding this process.

If you do not process Platinum Pass applications, please share the information with the person who manages this function for your agency.

FY 2019 Travel Reduction Survey

It's almost that time again! In January, staff will be reaching out to coordinators to prepare for the 2019 Travel Reduction Survey. This will include updating agency addresses and employee counts.

New Employee Orientation

Capitol Rideshare staff is available to present an overview of the state's travel reduction program and services to employees at your agency's new employee orientation (NEO). We also sent you the redesigned Capitol Rideshare brochures to be included in new hire packets when new state employees are onboarded. To order additional brochures or to request a Capitol Rideshare speaker, please send an email with your NEO times and dates to RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov.

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Editor: Mary Marshall

Reminders

Emergency Ride Home services are only for Commuter Club members; register today to qualify for this benefit

The primary benefit of Commuter Club membership are the two free emergency rides home per fiscal year (restrictions apply). Capitol Rideshare offers this service exclusively to employees who commit to using an alternate mode of transportation twice each week, then sign up for Commuter Club. Be sure you are registered through the online portal; if you are not sure, [please go to the online portal and check](#) to see if you have an account. If you did not use the portal to establish your account since July 1, 2018, you're NOT an active member.

GRID Bike Share renewals

For employees who were among the first to sign up last year for the discounted annual GRID Bike Share membership, it's time to renew. Because this exclusive program is only available to state employees using a state email address, you must go through the group membership registration. If your membership has ended, [follow this link](#) and register through Capitol Rideshare's group plan.

Valley Metro holiday schedule

The holiday season is here. Employees who take transit are advised to check the [Valley Metro 2018 holiday schedule](#).

Match list service for carpools and vanpools

Need to find someone to share the ride? Log on to SharetheRide.com and complete a match list. It takes just a few minutes and it is confidential. The tool will allow you to find others who are seeking commuters for a carpool or vanpool. Please be sure to check out our [online video about vanpool](#) as a commuting option!



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RIDESHARE**

Ride smarter. Breathe easier.