

Rideshare Review

A bimonthly publication from Capitol Rideshare

January/February 2024



June 1 is target go-live date for the new Valley Metro Platinum cards

The new transit cards will be compatible with new fare readers for bus and light rail

As noted in the previous issue of Rideshare Review, Valley Metro has implemented new purple fare card readers on Express, RAPID and local buses and at light rail stations throughout the valley. Currently, the fare readers are being used by transit riders who purchase mobile fare via the Valley Metro app.

Over the next few months, Valley Metro is transitioning from the Platinum Pass to a new Platinum Card. The Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) is working with Valley Metro to complete the transition; currently, the target date for employees to begin using the new Platinum Cards is June 1, 2024.



During the transition, Capitol Rideshare staff will continue to provide updates in the Rideshare Review newsletters and on the Platinum Pass webpage of the Capitol Rideshare website. Staff also will email Platinum Pass employees to communicate the coming changes. The new Platinum Cards will not have an expiration date.

Sign up for the FREE Platinum Pass transit card

Capitol Rideshare fully subsidizes the Platinum Pass program through June 30, 2024, meaning transit is FREE for participating state employees. To learn more about the program and download the Platinum Pass application, visit the [Capitol Rideshare website](#). Note, completed applications must be returned to the employee's human resources contact for processing; Capitol Rideshare staff cannot process Platinum Pass applications. Please allow 2-3 weeks to receive the card, which is mailed to the employee's home address. If you have questions about the Platinum Pass program, please email RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov.

Contact:

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Celebrate Valley Bike Month with events in April

Bike to Work Day: April 17

Join Capitol Rideshare, Maricopa County and the City of Phoenix on April 17, 2024 for Bike-to-Work Day! Cycling enthusiasts of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. Participants will need to bring their own bikes. There will be an official group ride that begins at Steele Indian School Park; sign-in takes place in Lot B, which is accessible from Central Avenue on East Farrington Drive. Upon registration, participants will receive a reflective sticker (the event does not have t-shirts this year). The group will leave the park at 7 a.m. and travel down 3rd Street to the finish line on Adams at City Hall Plaza (east of the Orpheum Theater). These riders will have a police escort. There will be a light snack at the finish line for registered participants. Registration will open in mid-March; please check the [Valley Metro website](#) for updated information.

Valley Metro's Bike Month activities

Valley Metro is hosting contests and challenges to celebrate Valley Bike Month. Participants must register at [ShareTheRide.com](#) to participate in the competition. Prizes include swag, gift cards, a Lectric electric bike and a one-night stay at the Pointe Hilton Resort Squaw Peak. Please visit Valley Metro's [Valley Bike Month webpage](#) to learn more about these and other upcoming events.



Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program

2024 Notice to Employees

BACKGROUND:

To improve air quality and reduce vehicle emissions in heavily traveled areas, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) administers a mandatory vehicle emissions inspection program known as the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP).

Arizona law (A.R.S. § 49-542) requires vehicle emission inspection and testing for:

- Most vehicles registered in the Area A vehicle emissions control area of greater metro Phoenix (including parts of Maricopa County and parts of Pinal County and Yavapai County as defined by A.R.S. § 49-541) and/or
- Most vehicles registered outside of Area A used to commute to a work site located within Area A.

For a map of the Area A vehicle emissions control area boundary and a link to the legal description, please visit the ADEQ website, [azdeq.gov/emaps](#).

IF YOU LIVE AND WORK IN ARIZONA:

- Any vehicle you own and operate in Arizona must be registered in Arizona and display a valid Arizona license plate (some exceptions apply). For more information, please visit [azdot.gov/mvd](#) or contact the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Motor Vehicle Division at 602-255-0072.
- Any vehicle you use to drive to an Area A worksite is required to go through vehicle emissions testing. *This applies even if you live outside of Area A.*
- For employees who live outside of Area A, a proof of compliance form will be issued to you by the emissions testing facility at the time of emissions testing. Testing results, which are also sent electronically to ADOT, are needed for registration. After you submit your registration request, by mail or online, you will receive a registration tag for your license plate. For vehicles that are registered out-of-state (students/part-time employees) and that are parked on federal, state, or city parking properties, you will need to obtain an air quality compliance sticker for your driver's window from ADOT. For more information, please visit [myazcar.com](#) or call the ADEQ VEIP Hotline at 1-877-692-9227 (1-877-myAZcar).
- In addition to any other criminal penalty provided by law, a person who does not comply with this law is subject to a civil penalty of \$100 for a first violation and \$300 for a second violation.

Congratulations to our RideAmigos contest winners!

Capitol Rideshare launched the RideAmigos monthly contests in June 2020 and employees are logging trips, earning and redeeming points to enter contests for prizes! **Remember, remote work days count as alternate modes—so log those remote work days!** Below are lists of Commuter Club members who entered the contests and were randomly selected as gift card winners via the RideAmigos gamification module.

December winners	Agency	January winners	Agency
Lauren Harshey	Registrar of Contractors	Nanci Sexton	Dept. of Child Safety
Cheryl Schnell	Dept. of Administration	Erik Gunness	Parks Board
Trevor Cook	Court of Appeals	Jennifer Gandy	Game & Fish Dept.
Cindy Narvaez	Senate	Cindy Narvaez	Senate
M. Theresa Johnson	Dept. of Water Resources	Christina Schereck	Game & Fish Dept.
Stephen Skuba	Dept. of Public Safety	Jolene Teeters	Dept. of Administration
Megan Baker	Dept. of Education	Leslie Biava	Dept. of Administration
Michelle Carella	Dept. of Revenue	Cheryl Schnell	Dept. of Administration
Michael Scheller	Dept. of Economic Security	Sergio Gallegos	Registrar of Contractors
Pamela Adame	Dept. of Transportation	Desiree Fizer	Dept. of Revenue
Jennifer Widlowski	Dept. of Environmental Quality	Elizabeth Beck	Dept. of Child Safety
Courtney Caithamer	Dept. of Child Safety	Eliza Ybarra	Attorney General's Office
Marlene Coffey	Dept. of Corrections	Gerardo Rodriguez	Corporation Commission
Mary Cimaglio	Lottery Commission	Shawna Robles	Dept. of Economic Security
Terri Beeler-Saucedo	Dept. of Education	Lucas Erickson	Dept. of Health Services
Kim Bradford	Dept. of Administration	Amanda Weldy	Registrar of Contractors
Jennifer Gandy	Game & Fish Dept.	Tammy Seilheimer	Dept. of Economic Security
Diane Murphy	Dept. of Economic Security	Christy Kramer	Dept. of Administration
Karla Henriksen	Lottery Commission	Maria Morales	Dept. of Economic Security
Fiona Donohoe	Dept. of Economic Security	M. Theresa Johnson	Dept. of Water Resources

Members of [Commuter Club](#) are eligible to join the fun and start redeeming their points for the chance to win a gift card! Here's how it works:

1. Log your alternate modes and collect your points.
2. Once you have at least 100 points, scroll to the bottom of your dashboard to your My Rewards section. Click on RideAmigos Sign Up and Trip Logging Points.
3. Under your points total, click on Show Details and Inventory.
4. The dashboard expands to show you the awards available to you and the points required to enter the drawing.
5. Click on the drawing you wish to enter. If you have the points available, you can redeem points for up to three entries. Example: If you have a point balance of 300 and each entry is 100 points, you can redeem the balance of your points for three drawing entries.

Start redeeming your points today—and if you haven't started logging your trips, get started! You can log previous trips up to 30 days! If you need help learning how to log trips, please visit the FAQs linked posted on [Capitol Rideshare's RideAmigos information page](#).

Coordinator's Corner

New hire packet materials available in print format and online

Onboarding new employees provides a great opportunity to introduce them to Capitol Rideshare services. If your agency is onboarding in person, please ensure your orientation includes the Capitol Rideshare new hire brochure, Platinum Pass application and 2024 Capitol Rideshare calendar. Please email RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov if you need additional print materials. If your agency is onboarding in a virtual environment, please be sure to include the electronic versions of these documents in your communications with new hires. These are compiled in a [virtual new hire kit](#) that is posted on the [travel reduction coordinator page](#) of the website.

Please cancel transit cards when an employee leaves state service

Agencies must cancel an employee's transit card when an employee is leaving state service. Transit Capitol Rideshare staff are reviewing data at the beginning of each month and finding active transit cards for inactive employees. Staff then emails the list of these active cards to the Platinum Pass processor for the agency with a request to cancel the card. If your agency has received such a list and request, please work with the processor (if it is someone other than you) to review the agency's procedures to determine how this is happening and change the process to ensure former employees are not leaving with active transit cards. **Please do not cancel the transit card if the employee is transferring to another state agency.** Please refer to ADOA's [HRIS training resources webpage](#) for related information or contact Central Payroll if you have any questions.

Capitol Rideshare is administered by the Arizona Department of Administration Human Resources Division; 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 & Notes

Valley Metro's Northwest Extension of the Light rail is now in service

Valley Metro light rail began service to the newest stations in the northwest valley on January 27. The 1.6-mile extension from 19th Avenue/Dunlap to the Metrocenter area adds three new stations, including the system's first elevated station across I-17. Riders can now access a new transit center with bus connections and a new park-and-ride garage. The extension is anticipated to initially attract 1,400 new riders to the system each day.

Ride-matching for carpool and vanpool

Employees who are seeking a carpool partner should create a profile on the [Capitol Rideshare RideAmigos](#) platform, which includes only state employees. To expand the potential number of carpool options or to find an open seat in an established vanpool, employees should also create a profile on the Valley Metro [ShareTheRide.com](#) platform. These platforms will allow employees to seek and reach out to rideshare partners whose routes and schedules match their own. If an employee successfully finds an open seat on a vanpool, they should complete the vanpool subsidy application. Visit the [Capitol Rideshare vanpool webpage](#) for more information.

Employees must carpool three times/week to participate in the carpool program

Capitol Rideshare's [carpool program](#) rules state that employees who carpool at least three times per week are eligible for a Capitol Rideshare carpool parking permit. If you are working remotely and are no longer carpooling, please contact Capitol Rideshare staff via email at Rideshare-Help@azdoa.gov to cancel your parking permit.



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Ride smarter. Breathe easier.