

RIVCO ON THE GO! NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025



PLEDGE TO GO CAR FREE!

**WORLD CAR FREE DAY
 / 25TH ANNIVERSARY
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

For 25 years, World Car Free Day has encouraged millions to imagine life in cities with cleaner air, safer streets, and less noise. Each year on September 22, communities around the world step away from their cars and choose walking, cycling, or public transit proving that even one day can make a huge difference.

While cars offer convenience, they also bring pollution, climate impacts, and accidents. Going car-free, even briefly, is a simple way to protect our health, cut emissions, and create spaces designed for people instead of traffic.

As we celebrate this 25th anniversary, let's show what is truly possible when we act together. Every step, pedal, or transit ride on World Car Free Day moves us closer to a greener, healthier future.

SMOOTHER COMMUTES AHEAD!

The 71/91 freeway connector is officially now open and ready to improve your daily commute. This non-tolled, two-lane route helps ease congestion, enhance safety, and provide access to alternative travel options. Use the new connector and share the ride for a faster, smarter, greener commute.

CARPOOL LANE ACCESS CHANGES AHEAD FOR CLEAN AIR VEHICLES

California's Clean Air Vehicle (CAV) program, which currently allows eligible hybrid and electric vehicle drivers to use carpool lanes without a passenger, is scheduled to end on September 30, 2025. This program has offered a valuable benefit to drivers, helping reduce commute times while supporting cleaner air.

Below is a statement provided directly from the California DMV, including details on program expiration, and what drivers need to know to stay compliant.

The federal regulations that allowed states to issue Clean Air Vehicle (CAV) decals will expire on September 30, 2025. This means the federal government will no longer allow states to issue Clean Air Vehicle decals. Putting the brakes on this program means that starting October 1, 2025, CAV decals will no longer be valid in California, or elsewhere in the United States. All vehicles will be required to meet posted vehicle occupancy to travel in carpool lanes and pay required tolls or risk receiving a citation. The federal government's decision to eliminate this smart and popular program will hurt hundreds of thousands of California drivers, and these drivers will have to pay the price. It's a lose-lose situation and the state is now looking at other options to provide this service to Californians.

With the program ending, now is the perfect opportunity to explore ridesharing. Sharing your commute not only helps you maintain carpool lane access but also offers savings, convenience, and a greener, more sustainable way to travel.



RIVCO ON THE GO! NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

RIDESHARE WEEK: OCTOBER 6–10

Join the movement! RideShare to save money, reduce emissions, and make your commute greener.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MONTHLY RIDESHARE PRIZE WINNERS!

Thank you for your continued participation in the RideShare Program and for being a part of our efforts toward a more sustainable Riverside County. By choosing to RideShare, you're helping to reduce emissions, ease traffic congestion, and promote a cleaner, greener environment.

Each winner will receive a gift of their choice from the Halo Gift Catalog as a token of our appreciation.

Winners, this is your opportunity to **“Share Your Story”** and highlight the benefits of RideSharing. Your experience could be featured in an upcoming newsletter to inspire others to also RideShare and make a difference!

MONTHLY WINNERS

Alejandro Garcia (BOS)

Amber Manriquez (RUHS – BH)

Cynthia Werner (DPSS)

Erin Stines-Timberlake (Public Defender)

Lupita Lara (RUHS – MC)

Maricela Ambriz (TREAS/TAX)

Vereniz Sanchez Covarrubias (RUHS – MC)

Yolanda Hernandez (DPSS)

SHARE THE RIDE, PROTECT THE PLANET

Did you know that driving alone pumps nearly a pound of CO₂ into the air for every mile you travel? Carpooling and vanpooling reduce emissions to just .22 pounds per person per mile, meaning five people can travel for the carbon footprint of one! Public transit cuts it almost in half, and biking or walking produces zero emissions.

With vehicles responsible for 37% of California’s total emissions, every ride you share makes a difference. So, choosing to rideshare isn’t just about saving money or avoiding traffic, it’s about cleaner air, healthier communities, and a brighter future for everyone.

REMINDERS..



To qualify for RideShare Program incentives and benefits, employees must first complete the registration process with the HR – Commuter Services Division.



For more information on how to register, please contact our office for assistance at icommute@rivco.org.



Falsely reporting RideShare participation to receive incentives is a violation of County Policy. Employees who engage in this practice may be subject to disciplinary action, which could include warnings, suspension, or other penalties as outlined in County regulations.

