



## FACT SHEET June 2011

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### 511 RIDESHARE FACTS -

- 511 Rideshare is a FREE web and phone service that helps commuters form carpools and vanpools. **Its mission is to reduce traffic congestion, clean the air, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.**
- 511 Rideshare is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHA), the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).
- Commuters can register for ridesharing (carpool/vanpool) using the free and secure online 511 RideMatch System by visiting [511.org](http://511.org), click **Rideshare** (ridematch.511.org). The [511 RideMatch Service](#) provides online tools for commuters to earn incentives while tracking travel patterns and reducing their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Registered users who log at least one green commute (carpool, vanpool, transit, bicycling, walking) each month in their online trip diary, will be eligible for monthly prize drawings from 511.
- The 511 RideMatch database currently averages more than 30,000 Bay Area commuters. And, approximately 1,000 new registrants are added monthly.
- 511 Rideshare has an outreach staff that provides free assistance to Bay Area companies in planning and developing customized commute programs. Services can include a customized 511-powered RideMatch web page with a unique URL that lets employees find carpool partners among co-workers.
- The 511 Rideshare website offers commuters an interactive Park & Ride-lot map with information regarding locations, plus carpool and HOV lanes. Visit 511.org and click "Rideshare."
- Current regional and county-based benefits for carpools and vanpools include:

#### **Carpools:**

- "Carpool. Track. Win!" is a program that rewards carpoolers with FREE groceries (visit 511.org)
- Access to HOV lanes and discounted tolls (with FasTrak®) on Bay Area bridges
- Ongoing rewards and incentives to new and existing carpoolers (promotions are profiled on 511.org click "Rideshare" and e-mailed to current registrants in the 511 RideMatch System)
- County-based incentives are also available from partnering agencies ([rideshare.511.org/rewards/county\\_benefits.aspx](http://rideshare.511.org/rewards/county_benefits.aspx))
- Employer-based incentives including priority parking, rewards, etc. (check with employer's HR/facilities/management)

**Vanpools:**

- (Up to) \$500 start-up incentives for vanpools
- Seat subsidies (\$300) for vanpools that have lost participant(s)
- County-based incentives are also available from partnering agencies
- Free parking/priority parking with specific counties/employers
- Free assistance from 511 staff to help fill empty van seats
- Access to HOV lanes and discounted tolls (with FasTrak®) on Bay Area bridges
- Reimbursement (\$75) to drivers for DMV-required medical exam (visit 511.org, click “Rideshare” and “Vanpool”)
- Commuter pre-tax benefits for vanpool expenses (visit 511.org, click “Rideshare” and “Vanpool”)

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