

SPECIAL TRANSIT SERVICES

Lakewood’s DASH service takes senior citizens and disabled adults to medical centers and community facilities in Lakewood and a limited number of destinations outside the city. The free service is for Lakewood residents over 60 or disabled residents of any age. Pre-registration is required, and pickups are by reservation only. For registration information, call the DASH office at 562-924-0149.



Lakewood offers convenient, free DASH service for seniors and the disabled.

Dial-A-Lift is a service provided to senior and disabled residents through Long Beach Transit. Dial-A-Lift’s curb-to-curb service takes eligible passengers to destinations in Long Beach, Signal Hill and Lakewood. Like Lakewood DASH, pre-registration is required to ride. For help with Dial-A-Lift registration, call 562-599-8581.

CAR AND VAN POOLS

Carpooling will help reduce the cost of commuting and put fewer miles on your car. To find a carpool, go to the matching service provided by www.commutesmartsmart.info or call 511 to have an agent help you. A vanpool is a group of 5 to 15 people who regularly travel 30 miles or more to and from work. Typically, riders pay a monthly fare and maintenance fee, while

drivers ride at a discounted rate in exchange for driving and maintaining the van. To join or form a vanpool (and for other shared transit options), go to www.metro.net/riding/rideshare.

BIKES ARE COOL

Lakewood’s flat terrain and clusters of parks, schools and stores make biking an option that’s as good for your health as it is for your pocketbook. Just ask the increasing number of people who use a bike to commute to work, take trips around town or connect to bus and rail services. Long Beach Transit and Metro buses have bike racks. And Metro allows riders to bring their bike on board light rail and subway cars. Bicycle racks and storage lockers for bikes can be found at some Metro stations. Lakewood has its own system of bike lanes and paths. The system is described at www.lakewoodcity.org/bicycle.

BIKE TRAILS

Entrance points in Lakewood to the San Gabriel River Trail are at every major crossing of the San Gabriel River. From Del Amo Blvd., the path takes riders south for six miles through Rynerson and El Dorado parks and ending at the ocean in Seal Beach. The northern route terminates in the San Gabriel foothills. Del Amo Blvd. provides easy access to Cerritos Regional Park and the northern end of the Coyote Creek Bikeway. A four-mile journey further south joins riders with the San Gabriel River Trail.



Cyclists can access the Orange County bike system by pedaling east along Del Amo Blvd. or Centralia St. The southern end of the San Gabriel River Trail connects to beachside bike lanes in Los Angeles and Orange counties. For information about bike sharing options, go to <https://bikeshare.metro.net>.

- www.octa.net The Orange County Transportation Authority has trip planning information for commuters traveling south from Lakewood.
- www.metrolinktrains.com Metrolink is a regional commuter rail service. Its website offers trip planning information.
- www.amtrak.com Amtrak’s homepage links to train schedules, fares and ticket purchase options.
- www.google.com/maps Google Maps allows users to map trips by car, public transit, bicycle, and on foot. The site has real-time arrivals for LB Transit buses and Metro trains and buses.
- www.commutesmartsmart.info CommuteSmart is a free service that makes it easy for Southern Californians to form carpools and vanpools.
- www.go511.com So Cal 511 offers a trip planning tool and real-time traffic conditions along with loads of useful resources for transit users, cyclists and drivers.



The 2023 Lakewood Transit Guide shows how to make getting around the Southland easier and quicker.

RIDE SAFELY

Regional and local transit agencies are implementing new programs designed to keep travelers secure and improve their transit experience. Increased law enforcement on trains and at rail stations has already begun. Transit “ambassadors,” who connect riders to resources and report maintenance and safety concerns, are making transit users feel safer.

COVID-19

Even though COVID-19 directives have been relaxed, transit riders should continue safe habits. Maintain your distance from other passengers while riding. Wash your hands frequently. Not feeling well? Stay home, and wear a mask if you must ride.

Always go online or call to confirm service levels before you ride.

The 2023 Lakewood Transit Guide is packed with advice on alternatives to solo driving. You’ll find trip planning tools, handy tips for new and veteran riders and answers to your questions on getting around by bus and train. As Lakewood residents work and play this summer, they’ll find that public transit is ready to speed them on their way. Metro is the regional provider of bus, light rail and subway services. Long Beach Transit supplies bus service locally. Other transit agencies can take Metro and Long Beach Transit passengers to coastal cities, foothill communities and destinations in Orange County. Web addresses and customer service phone numbers for local and regional transit agencies are on pages 2 and 4 of this guide.

Lakewood Transit Guide 2023
Take transit – it’s the smart way to go!

MORE CHOICES

Public investment is expanding transit choices in Los Angeles County, making travel faster and easier. The Regional Connector, tying three of the busiest rail lines into a seamless network, and the completion of the K Line (Crenshaw/LAX Line) will soon give transit users even more ways to connect to work, entertainment and recreation. A more direct transit link to LAX is coming as soon as 2024.

CUT YOUR COST

Commuting just once a week by transit can bring your cost of living down. The yearly cost to own and operate a car in 2023 is almost \$11,000 (or nearly \$900 a month). Not surprisingly, gas prices are the most significant factor in upping the annual price tag for drivers. Taking transit is a real alternative to paying more at the pump.

PARKING AND RIDE

Park & Ride lots throughout the Metro system provide safe, convenient places to park and transfer to a bus or train. Some lots are free; others have fees. To find a Park & Ride lot at any point along your commute, go to www.metro.net/riding/parking.

JUST FOR FUN

Public transit isn’t only about commuting. How about a trip to the restaurant and entertainment districts in Long Beach, Los Angeles and the beach cities? Or ride the A Line to see a Lakers, Clippers or Kings game or the L Line to Old Town Pasadena? Savvy Lakewood baseball fans take light rail and subway lines to catch Metro’s free Dodger Stadium Express buses from Union Station. In summer and fall, Long Beach Transit’s Aquabus and Aqualink services sail to waterfront attractions.

PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY

No matter where you plan to go, Lakewood is a good place to leave the car at home. Walkable and bikeable streets that lead to Lakewood’s schools, parks and shopping centers are essential parts of the city’s transportation infrastructure.

A GOOD IDEA TO PLAN AHEAD

BEFORE YOU RIDE

- Get a copy of the Long Beach route map and bus schedules at www.ridelbt.com. Use the site’s online trip planner to plan your trip. Metro provides the same service at www.metro.net. You’ll need the address of your starting and destination points, as well as the day and time you want to leave or arrive.
- Review your stops and transfer points. Be at your starting point 10 minutes early. Google Maps has a feature for mobile phones telling you when the next bus or train is approaching. Metro and Long Beach Transit provide a similar service for mobile phones.
- Buses, trains and subways have audio and visual announcements of the next stop. On the bus, signal your stop by touching the “stop requested” strip or tab near your seat or pulling the “stop requested” cord over the window. Trains and subways stop at every station.

TAP TO GO

- Long Beach Transit buses accept TAP cards and cash, but you need to have the exact fare. Metro trains and subways do not accept cash. Riders use a TAP card instead. There are vending machines at Metro stations to issue a new TAP card, add fares or validate a transfer. Your TAP card also gives you access to 26 transit systems across Los Angeles County.
- Remember to tap your TAP card every time you make a bus, train or subway transfer, even if you’re using the free transfer option.

TRANSIT HELP

- If you need more help to plan a trip with Long Beach Transit, you can speak to an information specialist by calling 562-591-2301.
- In-person help is offered Monday through Saturday at the Transit and Visitor Information Center at the Transit Gallery in downtown Long Beach (130 E. First St.). The Transit Gallery is the connection point for a majority of Long Beach Transit routes, as well as the Metro A Line and other regional bus routes (Torrance, LADOT and Amtrak’s thruway bus service).

- ➔ *LB Transit buses accept exact change and TAP card payment.*
- ➔ *Metro buses accept TAP card payment; some buses accept exact change.*
- ➔ *Metro trains and subways only accept TAP card payment.*

The information in this guide was checked for accuracy in April 2023.

Opened in 1939, Union Station in downtown Los Angeles is a hub for rail and bus commuting.



CALL AHEAD FOR TRANSIT HELP

These experts have the answers to get you where you want to go.

- Lakewood DASH (van service)**
562-924-0149
- Bellflower Dial-a-Ride (van service)**
562-865-7433
- Cerritos on Wheels (bus service)**
562-928-4COW
- Dial-A-Lift (van service)**
562-599-8581
- DowneyLink (bus service)**
562-529-LINK
- Long Beach Transit**
562-591-2301
- 211 Los Angeles County**
call 211 for referral assistance
- Metropolitan Transportation Authority**
323-GO-METRO
- Norwalk Transit**
562-929-5533
- Orange County Transportation Authority**
714-636-7433

TAKE A TRIP BY BUS

It’s easy to make connections.

If you’re new to public transit, your first ride is likely to be on a bus. The systems that serve Lakewood run modern, air-conditioned, clean-fueled coaches that make getting to your destination easy, comfortable and environmentally sound.

To make using bus transit even more appealing, Lakewood upgraded more than a hundred bus stops on major city streets. Many stops have solar-powered lighting to aid evening travelers.

Long Beach Transit operates nearly a dozen bus routes in Lakewood. Many of them connect to downtown Long Beach. Many of these routes also serve Lakewood Center; other routes connect Lakewood to adjacent cities.



Gridlock isn’t where anyone would want to be. Make travel less stressful by taking the bus or the train.



1. Metro’s bus system includes local and express routes. 2. Daily walking provides a wide range of health benefits. 3. Service is frequent and fast on Metro rail lines.

GETTING AROUND

Long Beach Transit lines 191 (South St.) and 192 (Del Amo Blvd.) make quick connections to the Del Amo station of the Metro A Line for rail service to downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach. Just west of the 710 Freeway, the station has a convenient 302-space, Park & Ride lot. Further south, the Willow station’s parking structure is located across from Long Beach Memorial Medical Center at Willow St. and Long Beach Blvd.

Long Beach Transit buses in downtown Long Beach can be boarded at the Transit Gallery on 1st St., between Long Beach Blvd. and Pine Ave. Transfers to the A Line can be made just west of Pine Ave. on 1st St.

At stops in downtown Long Beach, riders can transfer to buses that serve tourist destinations including the Queen Mary, Shoreline Village, the Pike entertainment district and the Aquarium of the Pacific.

If you need to commute to downtown Los Angeles, the Metro A Line can put you at 7th and Flower streets in less than 40 minutes from the Del Amo station. If you want to explore downtown Long Beach, the southern end of the A Line terminates in a loop that’s close to the Aquarium of the Pacific, Terrace Theater, Long Beach

main library and Long Beach Convention Center.

The Metro B Line subway goes to Hollywood and Vine in the heart of Tinseltown and on to Van Nuys.

If you’re heading to LAX, consider the C Line. Metro local bus 266 makes connections from Lakewood Center to the C Line station on Lakewood Blvd. at the 105 Freeway. While the C Line doesn’t go directly to terminals, a free shuttle does. The shuttle takes passengers and their baggage to and from the Aviation Station at Imperial Hwy. and Aviation Blvd.

The D Line subway connects downtown Los Angeles west to the Wilshire corridor (currently ending at Wilshire Blvd. and Western Ave).

The E Line connects with the A Line and subway lines at 7th and Flower. It goes from downtown to USC, Culver City and Santa Monica.

The L Line connects downtown to East Los Angeles with a northern extension that goes to downtown Pasadena and east to Azusa and Citrus College. The L Line also connects with the new K Line that extends south to Inglewood and Westchester.