

The 2024 Lakewood Transit Guide is packed with advice on alternatives to solo driving. You'll find trip planning tools, transit tips for new and veteran riders, and answers to your questions on getting around by bus, train and bike. As Lakewood residents work and play this summer, they'll find that the Southland's public transit agencies are ready to speed them on their way.

Metro is the principal regional provider of bus, light rail and subway services. Long Beach Transit supplies bus service locally. Other transit agencies can take passengers to beach cities, foothill communities and destinations in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Web addresses and customer service phone numbers for local and regional transit agencies are on pages 1 and 4.

Lakewood Transit Guide 2024

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.

PARK 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.

CUT YOUR COSTS

Commuting just once a week by transit can bring your cost of living down. The annual cost to operate a new car in 2024 is \$12,000 (or about \$1,000 per month). This is a 12% increase from 2022. Not surprisingly, gas prices and insurance are the most significant factors in upping the annual price tag for California drivers. Taking transit is a real alternative.

JUST FOR FUN

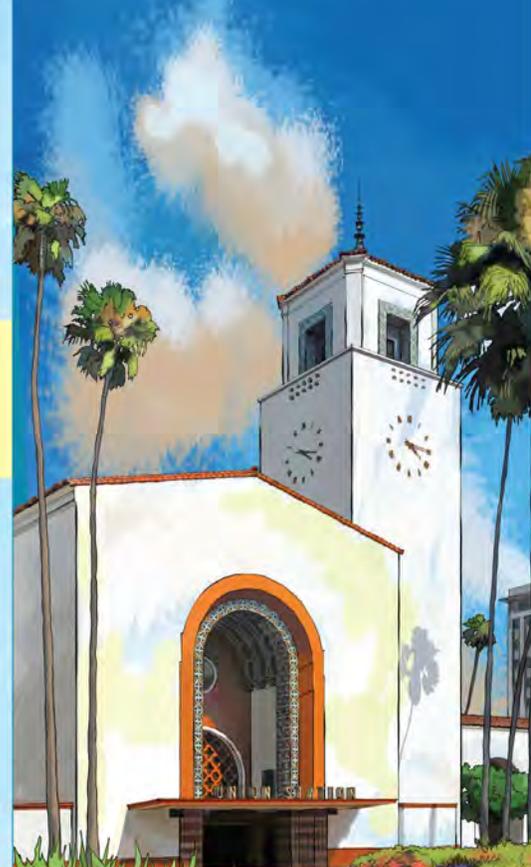
Public transit isn't only about commuting. How about a trip to the restaurant and entertainment districts in Long Beach, Los Angeles and the beach cities? Or ride the A Line to see a Lakers, Clippers or Kings game?

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 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.

Opened in 1939, Union Station in downtown Los Angeles is a hub for light rail, subway 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

TAP TO GO

A TAP card is a plastic card embedded with a smart chip that makes fare payment simple and secure. TAP can be a virtual card on iPhones, Apple Watches and Android phones. Using TAP deducts the correct fare each time you board a bus or train or pass through a station turnstile. TAP cards can be loaded at rail stations or online.

Long Beach Transit buses accept TAP cards, the TAP app and cash (but you need to have the exact fare). Metro trains and subways do not accept cash. Riders use a TAP card, the TAP app or Apple Wallet instead. For Metro riders, paying by TAP includes two hours of free one-way transfers on Metro buses and trains with each paid fare. Your TAP card also gives you access to 26 transit systems across Los Angeles County.

There are vending machines at Metro stations to issue a new TAP card, add fares or validate a transfer. Remember to tap your TAP card every time you make a bus, train or subway transfer, when using the free transfer option.

TAKE A TRIP

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 routes also serve Lakewood Center or connect Lakewood to adjacent cities.



The 2024 Lakewood Transit Guide makes getting around the Southland quicker and easier.



Gridlock isn't where anyone should be. Make your commute less stressful by taking the bus or train.

RIDER'S GUIDE

Get a copy of Long Beach 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 smart phones telling you when the next bus or train is approaching. Metro and Long Beach Transit provide a similar service.

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.

TRANSIT HELP

If you need more help to plan a trip with Long Beach Transit, speak to a customer specialist at 562-591-2301.

In-person help is offered at the Transit and Visitor Information Center at the Transit Gallery in downtown Long Beach (130 E. First St.). The center is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



1. Metro offers both 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 downtown Long Beach. Just west of the 710 Freeway, the station has a convenient 302-space Park & Ride lot. Farther 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 northern extension of the A Line goes to downtown Pasadena and east to Azusa and Citrus College.

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

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 Highway and Aviation Blvd.

A 2.25-mile monorail-like system is expected to open in April 2025 that will carry passengers directly from the C Line station to LAX.

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

The E Line connects with the A Line and the B and D subway lines at 7th and Flower streets. The E Line goes from Atlantic Ave. in East Los Angeles through downtown to USC, Culver City and Santa Monica.

The K Line extends south from the Crenshaw/Expo Station in downtown Los Angeles to Inglewood and Westchester.

Most rail lines run every 8 minutes during peak times and every 10 minutes during off-peak times.

The information in this guide was checked for accuracy in April 2024.

FOR A BETTER RIDE

Regional and local transit agencies are implementing new programs designed to keep travelers secure and improve their transit experience. New efforts include more law enforcement on trains and at rail stations, on-site “ambassadors” who can connect riders to transit resources and report maintenance and safety concerns, and the installation of more lighting, security cameras and emergency call boxes.

Commuter travel is becoming easier. The downtown Regional Connector, tying three of the busiest rail lines into a seamless network, speeds transit users to work, shopping and recreation. Increased service on light rail lines now means a quicker commute.

Students at participating GoPass schools now ride free all year.

SPECIAL 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's convenient, free DASH service gives seniors and the disabled greater mobility.

Dial-A-Lift is 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) 591-8753 or email dialalift_web@lbtransit.com.

CAR AND VAN POOLS

Carpooling with neighbors helps reduce the cost of commuting and puts fewer miles on your car. 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 or carpool (and for other shared transit options), go to www.metro.net/riding/rideshare.

GET MORE INFORMATION

www.lakewoodcity.org/transit Lakewood's website includes a guide to local transportation options.

www.lbtransit.com Long Beach Transit's website has maps and schedules along with a trip planning tool. Bus arrival times are available for mobile phone users.

www.accessla.org Access Services offers transit options for disabled residents.

www.amtrak.com Amtrak's homepage links to train schedules, fares and ticket purchase options.

www.ladottransit.com The Los Angeles Department of Transportation provides local bus service in and around downtown Los Angeles. The LADOT homepage has information on current service changes, fares and routes.

www.octa.net The Orange County Transportation Authority has trip planning information for commuters traveling south from Lakewood.

2-WHEEL COMMUTING

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.

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. Visit www.lakewoodcity.org/bicycle to view the system description.

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 farther 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.metro.net The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's website has schedules, a trip planner and tools for using TAP fare cards. Mobile phone users can see bus and train arrival times.

www.metrolinktrains.com Metrolink is a regional commuter rail service. Its website offers trip planning information and ticketing.

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 Long Beach Transit buses and Metro trains and buses.

www.rideshare.lacounty.gov CommuteSmart is a free service that makes it easy for Southern Californians to form carpools and vanpools.

www.go511.com Go511 provides real-time information about freeway traffic conditions along with resources for transit, carpool and vanpool users.

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