



# Club Ride Q&As

## **What is Club Ride Commuter Services?**

Club Ride Commuter Services is a free program of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC). It works with employers and commuters to reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality and mobility, encourage the use of commute alternatives, and ultimately create a more sustainable community.

## **How is Club Ride funded?**

Club Ride is funded through the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), with a majority of its support from federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Club Ride receives these funds because of the role the program plays in reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality.

## **Why should an employer start a commute options program?**

Employers enjoy benefits such as improved employee morale and productivity, reduced absenteeism, and financial savings from tax benefits and reduced operational costs. A commute options program also fits nicely into corporate sustainability goals. Because Club Ride helps develop, implement and promote customized programs at no cost, there is no reason *not* to join.

## **Why are employers so important to the effort?**

Employers have the power to directly influence their employees' commuting habits by setting policies on work hours, alternative schedules or providing incentives. Because the commute is the most predictable trip people take, it can also be the easiest to change. Employers participating in Club Ride can have a tremendous impact on reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality.

## **How does an employer partnership with Club Ride work?**

Because of the value of employers in our effort to reduce solo commuting, Club Ride offers *free* employer services. Simply sign on as a Club Ride partner, and your worksite will receive hands-on assistance establishing a commute options program. Our goal is to make it as easy on you as possible by providing marketing materials, conducting on-site events for employees and providing tools like preferential parking signs.

## **What are the benefits of alternative options for commuters?**

Commuters who choose not to drive alone to work see many benefits. They save time and money; reduce wear and tear on personal vehicles; experience reduced stress; help the environment by polluting less; and earn cash and prizes through Club Ride Rewards.



### **How can Club Ride help match potential carpool partners?**

The Club Ride database matches potential carpoolers with neighbors who have similar schedules and work locations. Commuters can fill out a rideshare application online or download a printed application and mail or fax it to Club Ride. Both can be found at [rtcsonv.com/Club\\_Ride](https://rtcsonv.com/Club_Ride).

### **What is Club Ride Rewards?**

Club Ride Rewards is available to employees whose employer is a Club Ride Partner. The incentive program encourages commuters to use commute alternatives when traveling to and from work, such as carpooling, taking transit, etc. Commuters who report their commute are eligible to win logoed merchandise, \$20 and \$50 gift cards.

### **What is Club Ride Discounts?**

Club Ride Discounts is an incentive program offered exclusively to members of Club Ride. A wide variety of stores, restaurants, entertainment venues and service providers throughout the region offer discounts and special deals to Club Ride cardholders. Details and a full list of participating locations can be found at [rtcsonv.com/Club\\_Ride](https://rtcsonv.com/Club_Ride).

### **What if employees are scared of getting stuck at work without a car?**

One of the most common concerns shared by commuters is being stranded without a car. Club Ride's Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program helps alleviate this concern. GRH is a free benefit offered to commuters at participating worksites who regularly carpool, vanpool, take transit, bicycle or walk to work. If a qualified emergency should occur, Club Ride will pay for a taxi, rental car or transit trip up to five times per year.

### **Are discounted transit passes available?**

The EZ Rider Transit Pass Program, available exclusively for Club Ride employer partners, allows employers to purchase discounted monthly transit passes for employees as an added transportation benefit. These passes can be purchased in bulk at a discounted rate of five to 15 percent.

### **Are there tax benefits for participating in Club Ride?**

The Commuter Choice federal tax benefit (tax code 132(f)) allows employers and commuters tax savings when paying for transit or vanpool costs. Commuters can pay for these costs through a pre-tax payroll deduction. An employer who subsidizes the full or partial expense can benefit from a deduction and save on payroll taxes. It's a win-win!

Any employer may also reimburse an employee up to \$20 per month tax-free for reasonable expenses incurred by the employee for the purchase of a bicycle and bicycle improvements, repair and storage if the bicycle is regularly used for travel between the employee's residence and place of employment.

### **Where can commuters or employers find more information?**

Please visit the website at [rtcsonv.com/Club\\_Ride](https://rtcsonv.com/Club_Ride) or call 228-RIDE (7433).

