Stanford Transportation
Return to Your Commute
Toolkit Deck | September 8, 2021
What To Know About Returning to Your Commute

- Choosing your commute mode
- Saving on your commute
- Getting help planning your commute
What’s it like to return to a Stanford commute?

Stanford Transportation staff share their experiences

**I TRAIN...**

“I’ve been riding Caltrain from San Francisco to Redwood City since mid-June, and there’s plenty of space on board! I plan to continue to ride the train during the flexible work pilot.”

Brian Shaw
Executive Director

**I BIKE...**

“Riding from Los Altos to the main campus over the past several months, I’ve noticed an increase in traffic and activity. As cyclists, we really need to pay attention and, of course, wear a helmet every time we ride.”

Anadine Delon Scott
Assistant Director of Active Mobility

**I CARPOOL...**

“My husband and I commute several days a week together in our hybrid car to the Stanford Redwood City campus. While the traffic has definitely increased since the shelter-in-place days, it’s still pleasant riding together!”

Kim Ratcliff
Communications Manager

**I DRIVE...**

“Ever since the pandemic, my time has been split working 50% on campus and 50% remotely. In early 2021, my commute... took 10 minutes. Nowadays, traffic is 75% back to normal and my commute is 20 to 30 minutes.”

Nico Baradi
Parking Field Agent
How Can I Save If I’m Driving?

▪ **Stanford has kept the ‘C’ permit as an affordable option.** In FY’21 and FY’22, parking rates have been held at FY’20 rates.

▪ **If saving is a priority, the ‘C’ daily or monthly permit offer the lowest rates.** The ‘A’ permit is for those who prioritize convenience, with parking availability closer to destinations.

▪ **Stanford continues to invest in sustainable commuting** for our community, the future of Stanford and to help reduce emissions that contribute to climate change.

▪ **Pre-tax payroll deduction is automatically applied** for eligible commuters, providing a tax savings of up to 40 percent.

For those concerned about cost, Stanford continues to invest in sustainable commute programs, including free transit passes and vanpools for those who want or need these options and are comfortable using them.
### Savings are Built Into the Monthly ‘C’ Permit Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Commuting</th>
<th>'C'/C-SRWC' permit cost (per day)</th>
<th>'C'/C-SRWC' permit type to purchase</th>
<th>Savings per Day Monthly vs. daily permit rate</th>
<th>Savings per Month Monthly vs. daily permit rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$5.45</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>$0.45</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$4.38</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>$1.08</td>
<td>$8.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
<td>$19.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>$2.91</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>$2.53</td>
<td>$30.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>$1.59</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>$3.86</td>
<td>$84.90</td>
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</tbody>
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If purchasing a daily permit adds stress to your morning, consider purchasing a monthly permit. Benefits-eligible employees automatically save up to 40 percent with pre-tax payroll deduction.
Try Our Permit Picker

1. Enter the number of commute days into the ‘C’- or ‘A’-permit box.

2. View the equivalent daily cost and savings of a monthly permit compared to a daily permit.

3. Note: If you commute up to 6 days with a ‘C’ permit or up to 7 days with an ‘A’ permit, purchasing daily instead of monthly permits is better financially.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Commuting (per month)</th>
<th>‘C’/C SRWC permit cost equivalent (per day)</th>
<th>‘C’/C SRWC permit type to purchase</th>
<th>Savings per Day (Monthly vs. daily permit rate)</th>
<th>Savings per Month (Monthly vs. daily permit rate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 to 6</td>
<td>$5.45</td>
<td>Daily ($5.45/day)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select: 8</td>
<td>$4.38</td>
<td>Monthly ($35/mo.)</td>
<td>$1.07</td>
<td>$8.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Commuting (per month)</th>
<th>‘A’ permit cost equivalent (per day)</th>
<th>‘A’ permit type to purchase</th>
<th>Savings per Day (Monthly vs. daily permit rate)</th>
<th>Savings per Month (Monthly vs. daily permit rate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 to 7</td>
<td>$16.25</td>
<td>Daily ($16.25/day)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select: 8</td>
<td>$14.50</td>
<td>Monthly ($116/mo.)</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
<td>$14.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Here is the link to our Permit Picker. We also show the cost of permits by days commuting.
# Stanford’s Rate Structure: Cost vs. Convenience

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation</strong></td>
<td>Short-term hourly, higher cost, greater convenience</td>
<td>Lower than visitor rates, greater convenience and availability than ‘C’ permit</td>
<td>Lower than daily ‘A’ and visitor rates (ex: 9 days per month), convenience</td>
<td>Greatest value/savings compared to daily (22 days), visitor rates, convenience</td>
<td>Lower cost, more distant parking, compared to visitor and ‘A’ permit rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hourly equivalent</strong></td>
<td>$4.46</td>
<td>$2.03</td>
<td>$1.61</td>
<td>$0.65</td>
<td>$0.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daily equivalent</strong></td>
<td>$35.68</td>
<td>$16.25</td>
<td>$12.89</td>
<td>$5.27</td>
<td>$5.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monthly equivalent</strong></td>
<td>$784.96</td>
<td>$357</td>
<td>$116.00</td>
<td>$116.00</td>
<td>$114.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Highlighted (green/bold) amounts are actual rates available.
- Equivalent costs are indicated in italics and are for ease of comparison.
- Those commuting full-time, such as essential workers, save the most from a monthly ‘C’ permit; while colleagues save significantly on days they telecommute. Use our Commute Cost and Carbon Emissions Calculator to see how much you spend or save on your commute.
How Can I Save With A Sustainable Commute?

- **For those comfortable with sustainable commuting,** Stanford continues to invest in these programs:
  - **Free transit passes** (i.e., Caltrain, VTA, AC Transit, SamTrans)
  - **A 100% vanpool lease subsidy for existing vanpools.** Join an existing vanpool and keep an eye out for new vanpool subsidies.
  - **Emergency Ride Home program** for days you use sustainable commute and need to get home in an emergency.
  - **Bike resources**, with recordings of recent webinars

- **Carpooling could help reduce your expenses.** While carpool permits and subsidies are not currently available, expenses can be shared among carpoolers.

- **Pre-tax transit purchases help you save** on out-of-pocket expenses, such as BART, Muni, and Caltrain parking, offering tax savings of up to 40 percent.
Are Marguerite Shuttles and East Bay Buses Running?

- Yes! Marguerite shuttle service and East Bay buses are running and include safety precautions.
- Marguerite routes and schedules have been adjusted due to reduced ridership during the pandemic.
- Decisions to increase service levels will be made in collaboration with university leadership and funding partners as we monitor ridership.
- Masks are required on Marguerite buses and public transit. Passenger limits have been lifted on Marguerite buses.

transportation.stanford.edu/marguerite
Which Commute Will You Choose?

**BIKE**
- Safety first! Follow these bike safety tips for a safer commute.
- Brush up on bike safety skills by watching bike webinars online.
- Request bike commute planning assistance.

**CARPOOL/VANPOOL**
- A 100% lease subsidy continues for existing vanpools. Some are accepting new riders.
- Carpoolers can share expenses. Scoop and other ridematching services are available.
- Carpool permits and subsidies are currently unavailable.

**TRANSIT**
- Stanford-issued transit passes continue for eligible commuters (i.e., Caltrain, VTA, AC Transit, SamTrans)
- Face masks required. Check transit policies and schedule updates
- Health and safety protection under Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan

**DRIVE**
- Hourly, daily, and monthly parking options are available.
- Most commuter and visitor spaces are enforced between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays or according to posted signage.

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*Exercise + Commute savings*

*Re-connect + Share expenses*

*Add more steps + Save with free transit*

*Add a few steps + Save with ‘C’ permits*
Is It Safe To Return To Public Transit?
These articles shed some light on the answer

- “COVID Road to Recovery: How to Get Wary Bay Area Commuters Back on Public Transit” CBS News; excerpt below:

  “Despite the strong sentiment against it, the science shows public transportation is safe.”

  “A CDC study out of Japan at the height of the pandemic found no super spreader events took place on trains, especially where mask compliance was high, whereas restaurants, workplaces and concerts were primary cluster sites for COVID.”

- “COVID-19 Changed Public Transportation. Here’s How” PBS News Hour; excerpts below:

  “As numbers increase, rail companies are increasing capacity, to enable social distancing and prevent packed trains.”

  “. . . more hand sanitizer at stations, there will be enhanced train-cleaning too.”

  “Wearing a mask can lessen the risk . . .”

  “The chance of picking up the virus from contaminated surfaces is now believed to be far lower than previously thought.”

Additional links:

- “What’s the Risk of COVID on Public Transport?” BBC

- “What Will It Take to Get Bay Area Commuters Back on BART?” CBS News
We Can Help With Your Commute

- One-on-one Commute Consultations
- Transit Pass Eligibility and Status Checker
- Status of Transportation Programs and Services
- Permit Picker based on Days Commuting
- Returning to Your Stanford Commute
- Return to Campus and Bikes
- COVID-19: Featured Topics

transportation.stanford.edu
Contact Us

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We recognize that commuting is a personal choice, especially at this time. Commuters are encouraged to assess and select the option(s) that best meet their needs. We are providing information about commute options as a courtesy for those who need it, and it is not intended to encourage specific commute mode choices. Please refer to our website for the most current information.