Topics

- Return-to-Campus Updates
- Parking Permits: Addressing Concerns
- What’s In Your Toolkit
- Takeaways
Return-to-Commute Updates

FEBRUARY 2022
Caltrain Increases Service To the Highest Levels Ever

- As of August 30, Caltrain service surpassed its pre-pandemic levels, higher than any point in its history.
- Caltrain offers 104 trains per weekday, including hourly, all-stop Local trains throughout the day.
- Weekday peak commute hours increased to four trains per hour (6 a.m. to 9 a.m., 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.).
- Baby Bullet express trains have returned.
- Limited-Stop train service offers faster midday service.
- Half hourly service extends until 11 p.m. in keeping with the goals of the Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery and Growth.
VTA Has Fully Restored Light Rail Service

- Following the tragedy at the Valley Transportation Authority’s (VTA’s) rail yard, the agency has worked to bring light rail back to full service.

- VTA’s light rail system is fully operational.

- VTA offers trip planning support:
  - 408.321.2300 or customer.service@vta.org.
  - The TransitApp is also an option for real-time bus information.
Free Transit Passes Remain Valid

- Free transit passes remain active for eligible commuters:
  - Caltrain Go Pass
  - VTA SmartPass
  - AC Transit EasyPass
  - Monthly SamTrans passes can be requested by SRWC commuters

- Use our Transit Pass Eligibility and Status Checker to check your pass status.
- New employees and other eligible commuters can request transit passes through our online form.
# Vanpools

## Current Stanford Vanpools

### Main Campus

### East Bay
- Hayward/Fremont
- Manteca (4)
- Tracy/Lathrop/"Altamont/Stockton"
- Tracy (2)
- Union City/Fremont

### North Bay/San Francisco
- Half Moon Bay
- Fairfield
- San Francisco

### South Bay
- Morgan Hill (2) SHC, LPCH
- San Jose/Gilroy
- San Jose/Morgan Hill

## Vanpool Subsidies Offered/Required*

- **Stanford Subsidy:** 100% Lease (Up to $1,250/month)
- **MTC Subsidy** (Metropolitan Transportation Commission): $350/month/vanpool
- **DIBS Subsidy** (San Joaquin Council of Governments): $400/month/vanpool
- **VTA Subsidy** (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority): $350/month/vanpool

* Vanpools receiving Stanford’s 100% lease subsidy are required to secure regional subsidies available to them.

## Free Ridematching Services

- **Stanford’s free Carpool/Vanpool Listings** (Stanford-affiliates only)
- **Public ridematching services**

## Starting a “pool”

- Carpool
- Vanpool

### South Bay
- Morgan Hill
- Morgan Hill SHC, LPCH
- San Jose/Gilroy
- San Jose
- Morgan Hill
- South Bay
- Santa Cruz
- San Jose
- Morgan Hill

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*Stanford University*
Bicycle Program

- **Return to Campus and Bikes**
- **Video recordings of our bike webinars**
- Currently, Stanford’s 11 bike repair stands are open on the main campus. Users should follow CDC guidelines.
- The **Campus Bike Shop** has resumed full operations.
- **Bike cages** available at main campus and Stanford Redwood City.
- We are updating the [2017 bicycle commuter access study](#), improving infrastructure, and working with Redwood City on bike improvements.

Look for upcoming bike events and webinars coming in Spring 2022.
Parking Permits

ADDRESSING CONCERNS
What Is The Highest Benefit? Where To Save?

- The cost of driving alone is generally higher than the cost of a permit. Vehicle expenses include gas, insurance, maintenance, and bridge tolls. Calculate your costs: [Commute Cost & Carbon Emissions Calculator](#)

  Example: East Bay commute
  - 30 miles roundtrip
  - $205 per month in apparent commuting expenses
  - $35 per month for a Stanford ‘C’ parking permit

- Stanford’s rates are in line with other Bay Area universities and municipalities.
  - Stanford’s rates are $35 to $116 per month.
  - U.C. Berkeley employee parking rates range from $85 to $159 per month
  - Downtown Palo Alto employee permits cost $806 per year, or $67.16 per month.

- Stanford invests in free transit passes and other sustainable commute options to provide commuters with alternatives to the high cost of driving alone.

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Stanford’s land is incredibly valuable and best used for teaching, research, and patient care. Building parking is costly. According to a [California parking database](#), the cost to build garages and underground parking is estimated at $50,000 to $80,000 per space, and 31% of spaces go unused on average.
Our Permit Picker Tool Makes It Easier to See How Discounts Are Built Into Monthly Permits

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>
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</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>
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</tbody>
</table>

Here is the link to our Permit Picker. We also show the cost of permits by days commuting.
What’s In Your Commute Toolkit?

RESOURCES FOR STANFORD COMMUTERS
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.”

Ariadne 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
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
- **All Aboard Bay Area** provides the latest information.

**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 as posted.
- ‘A’ and ‘C’ permits are valid at both the main campus and Stanford Redwood City.
## Status of Transportation Programs

Stanford Transportation is returning to near-normal operations with a few changes. The Marguerite shuttle service is up and running on the most traveled routes. As demand increases, Marguerite routes may be expanded. Parking permits are required and parking policies remain the same as before the pandemic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program / Service</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Active with Adjustments</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Learn More</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Parking permits and enforcement |        |                         |           | The main campus returned to weekday enforcement.                        | • Purchase a Parking Permit  
                                                                                        • Compare costs with our Permit Picker                                         |
| Free Marguerite shuttle         |        |                         |           | Service is available, with adjusted schedules and routes.              | • Marguerite Shuttle Maps and Schedules  
                                                                                        • Marguerite Safety Updates: COVID-19                                           |
| Free Transit Passes             |        |                         |           | Free transit passes remain valid through Dec. 31, 2022. No action required. | • Transit Pass Eligibility and Status Checker  
                                                                                        • Public Transit Service Changes: COVID-19                                       |
| Line U East Bay Express         |        |                         |           | Line U continues to be free for those with a valid university ID card, hospital ID badge, or SLAC ID badge. | • AC Transit’s Line U  
                                                                                        • Public Transit Service Changes: COVID-19                                           |
| SamTrans Pass                   |        |                         |           | Free SamTrans passes continue to be available to eligible SWC.         | • Request a SamTrans Pass  
                                                                                        • Public Transit Service Changes: COVID-19                                           |

**Free transit passes** (i.e., Caltrain, VTA, AC Transit, SamTrans)

**100% vanpool lease subsidy** for existing and returning vanpools—and potentially others

**Emergency Ride Home program**

**Bike resources**, recordings of **recent webinars**

**Parking permits required** on weekdays

**Carpooling.** While carpool permits and subsidies are currently suspended, expenses can be shared informally

**Pre-tax transit.** Save on out-of-pocket expenses, such as BART, Muni, and Caltrain parking; tax savings of up to 40%

*View the status of Stanford Transportation's programs and services*
Marguerite Shuttle Service Returns

- **Masks are required** on Marguerite buses and public transit.
- **Passenger limits have been lifted**; rear boarding continues on Marguerite buses.
- **We will soon be fully hybrid/electric** for vehicles we own! We’re retiring eight older, diesel buses.

Currently suspended: 1050 Arastradero, Lines N and O, Shopping Express/Special
Is It Safe To Return To Public Transit?

Some articles shed light on the answer

▪ “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 . . .”

▪ “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 . . .”

Sources:

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

“COVID-19 Changed Public Transportation, Here’s How” PBS News Hour
Key Takeaways
FOR STANFORD COMMUTERS
Key Takeaways

- **Reducing peak-hour and drive-alone trips is a priority:**
  - To help support Stanford’s mission
  - To combat climate change

- **Stanford continues to invest in sustainable transportation programs, and most Stanford Transportation programs are available.**
  - **Free Marguerite shuttle service:** continued and expanded
  - **Vanpool subsidies:** continued and is expanding
  - **Free transit passes:** continued for eligible commuters throughout the pandemic and continues to be available
  - **The Emergency Ride Home Program** and **pre-tax transit** continue

- **Transit service, such as Caltrain, is as good or better** than before the pandemic

- **Parking permits are required**
  - **Rates are the same** as they were in 2020.
  - **If parking more than two days a week, a monthly ‘C’ permit** offers a savings over daily permits even for hybrid schedules.
  - **Discounts are built into monthly permit rates.**
  - **We are working on improvements** to the parking permit system, but rates are not expected to change.
Contact Us For Assistance

TRANSPORTATION@STANFORD.EDU
650.723.9362

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.