

HOW CAN I FIND A CARPOOL?

Visit carpool.511.org to find a carpool. Carpool.511.org explains the Bay Area's matching tools: Merge (for longer-term carpool arrangements with no built-in fee), Scoop (for daily, fee-based carpooling), and Waze/Waze Carpool (for daily, sliding-fee-based carpooling). Casual Carpool pick-up locations are also available on carpool.511.org.

HOW CAN I FIND A VANPOOL?

Visit vanpool.511.org to learn more about vanpooling. Vanpool.511.org has an inventory of vanpools with empty seats. You can also register in merge.511.org to take advantage of seats that may become available in the future on existing and new vans. When you join a vanpool, your monthly seat fee covers van maintenance, insurance, gas, and parking costs.

WHAT ARE THE CARPOOL HOURS ON THE I-880 EXPRESS LANES?

5 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday – Friday, consistent with other Bay Area Express Lanes.

WHAT ARE THE I-880 EXPRESS LANES TOLLING RULES?

- Single occupant cars pay full tolls
- Single occupant Clean Air Vehicles pay half-price tolls with a FasTrak CAV toll tag
- 2-person carpools pay half-price tolls with FasTrak Flex
- 3+ carpools travel toll free with FasTrak Flex



The infographic is divided into two main sections: 'Carpools' and 'All Drivers'. Under 'Carpools', it shows three categories: '3+' (FREE), '2' (HALF TOLL), and '1' (FULL TOLL), each with a corresponding FasTrak Flex toll tag. Under 'All Drivers', it shows '1' (FULL TOLL) and 'CAV' (HALF TOLL), each with a corresponding FasTrak toll tag. A note at the bottom states: 'Motorcycles are FREE with a FasTrak Flex toll tag set to 3+'. Another note states: 'Clean Air Vehicles pay half-price tolls with a FasTrak CAV toll tag.' The background features a stylized landscape with hills and a blue sky.

Category	Occupants	Toll Status	Required Tag
Carpools	3+	FREE	FasTrak Flex
	2	HALF TOLL	FasTrak Flex
	1	FULL TOLL	FasTrak Flex
All Drivers	1	FULL TOLL	FasTrak
	CAV	HALF TOLL	FasTrak CAV

Motorcycles are FREE with a FasTrak Flex toll tag set to 3+.

Clean Air Vehicles pay half-price tolls with a FasTrak CAV toll tag.

WHY POOL?

- To travel toll free or at a reduced toll
- To get out of general-purpose lane traffic and get a more reliable trip in the express lane
- To share commute costs like gas and parking
- For companionship on the drive and to connect with colleagues and neighbors
- To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ground-level ozone
- To earn rewards

HOW DO I EARN REWARDS FOR CARPOOLING?

Create an account in the Bay Area matching tool, Merge, at merge.511.org to log your carpool and earn points that you can redeem for retail e-gift cards or a donation to the charity of your choice.

All carpool trips are eligible for points, regardless of how you formed your carpool (Merge, Scoop, Waze, Waze Carpool, Casual Carpool, or private carpool). Several counties also offer additional carpool rewards. Visit carpool.511.org to learn more about incentives offered by your county.



WHAT ARE THE REWARDS FOR VANPOOLING?

- **Monthly Vanpool Subsidy:** Bay Area vanpools rented from Commute With Enterprise that meet program criteria are eligible for a \$350 monthly subsidy.
- **Discounted Parking Permits:** The cities of Oakland and San Francisco offer discounted (or reduced-cost) parking permits for qualified vanpools.
- **Free Bridge Tolls:** The Bay Area Vanpool Program provides free bridge tolls to 11 – 15 passenger vanpools by providing non-revenue FasTrak® toll tags.
- **Seat-Subsidy:** Owner-operated vans that are down a rider or two can apply for a rider subsidy.

Visit vanpool.511.org to learn more about incentives offered by your county.

TIPS FOR CARPOOLING AND VANPOOLING DURING COVID-19

- [Create a carpool social bubble](#) by filling your carpool with the same people each time. [Merge](#) is ideal for identifying a consistent carpool partner(s).
- [Limit carpool size](#) to no more than one passenger per row of seats.
- [Sit diagonally from each other](#) for maximum distancing.
- [Wear a cloth mask that covers your nose and mouth](#) when in the vehicle.
- [Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.](#)
- [Wash your hands often and use hand sanitizer](#) that contains at least 70% isopropanol.
- [Clean and disinfect vehicle surfaces between after each trip:](#) door handles (inside and out), steering wheel, armrests, seatbelt/seatbelt buckles, seats, and knobs (including climate control, radio, glove box, etc.).
- If possible, [keep the windows open](#) when traveling to increase airflow.
- Stay home if you have any one of the identified [symptoms](#).

For complete and most up-to-date information on how to protect yourself in the COVID-19 environment visit the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov).

WHAT PRICE DO CARPOOLERS IN 2-SEATER VEHICLES PAY?

Two-person carpools in 2-seater vehicles can travel toll-free on the I-880 express lane and must set their FasTrak Flex toll tag in the 3+ position. This is consistent with the toll-bridge policy that allows 2-seater vehicles (with 2 occupants) to use the HOV lanes on bridges.

WHY CHARGE 2-PERSON CARPOOLS HALF-PRICE TOLLS?

Historically, the HOV lanes on I-880 do not provide the faster trip that carpoolers deserve or expect. To keep the lanes flowing for the cars with the most occupants, scaled tolls provide free use to transit, vanpools and carpools with 3 or more people. Getting the next best deal are 2-person carpools and clean air vehicles, which will pay half-price tolls, and get lanes that move faster and more reliably. Improved enforcement and access restrictions will also help.

In addition, the Federal government can withhold federal highway money from Caltrans if the lanes do not meet the standards. Caltrans is under pressure to make significant strides to improve Bay Area HOV lane performance.

HOW DO EXPRESS LANES IMPROVE CARPOOLERS' EXPERIENCE?

Pre-COVID, the HOV lanes on I-880 frequently slowed below 45 mph. Carpoolers are frustrated that their lanes do not move better. Express lanes provide technology to catch cheaters, convert cheaters to legitimate toll-paying customers, add access restrictions to reduce merges that slow down the lanes, and scale tolls to reward drivers based on vehicle occupancy. Finally, the dynamic tolling system sets price to keep traffic in the express lanes flowing smoothly.

HOW CAN I STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE I-880 EXPRESS LANES?

- Follow 511 on Facebook
- Follow MTC on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram
- Watch our [educational videos on YouTube here](#)
- Sign-up for e-mails about the I-880 Express Lanes at service.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAMTC/subscriber/session/new



Learn more at expresslanes.511.org