

# CommuteSmart News

February 2014

GET TO WORK FASTER, CHEAPER AND WITH LESS STRESS

## How "Big" Is the Pollution You Create?

You might be surprised.

For each mile you drive, your vehicle emits about a pound of CO2 emissions...a good fact to know, but what does it really mean?

"It helps to think of CO2 as gas trapped inside a balloon," according to the Natural Resources Defense Council. "Filling a balloon with one pound of CO2 would swell the balloon to about the size of one of those exercise balls that have become so popular lately"—about two and a half feet across per ball.



For the average Southern California round-trip commute, that's the equivalent of floating nearly 40 of these balls in the air every day.\*

Any day you leave the car at home to catch a ride in a carpool, take transit or bike to work means that all those emissions don't get released.

Even a small change in how often or far you drive reduces your personal impact on air quality. Need help finding alternatives? Contact your employer, or call 511 or visit [go511.com](http://go511.com) or [IE511.org](http://IE511.org) for carpool matching, bus/rail routing and other commute assistance.

\*This is rough illustration; actual amount varies based on total commute distance, type of vehicle and other factors.

## Be Warned: "Jamzilla" Heading to I-405



Motorists are being asked to help stop a potential monster of a traffic jam by avoiding the I-405 Sepulveda Pass during an intermittent 80-hour closure on Presidents' Day Weekend, Feb. 14-18. The closure will affect 5.6 miles between Getty Center Dr. and Ventura Blvd.



Northbound lanes will shut down entirely at night with partial lane closures during the day. Southbound, lanes will remain open during the day, with two lanes closing at night.

For details, go to [metro.net](http://metro.net).



## In Brief

### Need a Bike?

Instead of driving for short commutes and errands, Orange County residents can now check out bikes from kiosks located in key areas. BikeShare is a pilot program from Orange County Transportation Authority and is being initially launched in Fullerton.



To use a bike, buy a 1-day or 7-day access pass from any OCTA BikeShare



station, ride wherever you want, and then return the bike. Annual passes are also available for \$45-\$75.

For details and a list of kiosk locations, go to [octa.net/bikeshare](http://octa.net/bikeshare).

### A Sign of When Your Bus Will Come

Omnitrans—bus service for the San Bernardino Valley—posted new signs at bus stops that make it easier to use **NexTrip** via text, web site or phone to find out when the next bus will arrive.

The new signs also include a QR code for riders with QR code/barcode scanner apps on their smartphones.

For more information, visit [omnitrans.org](http://omnitrans.org).

