

Transit Tips!

We have done our very best to gather all the information you will need to get started using the public transportation choices our communities have to offer. We want to make sure you have everything you need to make your public transit travel on the Central Coast a pleasurable part of your day. **Welcome Aboard!**

➤ Before you leave:

Make sure you have everything you need to help your day go smoothly:

- Names, addresses and phone numbers for everyone you are going to see and the places you are going to visit.
- Route maps and brochures for all parts of your trip.
- Write down all the route numbers, bus stop locations, and transfers you will be using. Work backwards from the time you need to arrive at your destination to decide when you must be at your first boarding bus stop:
 1. Note the bus stop closest to where you are starting.
 2. Note the time you need to be at this first stop in order to reach your destination on time.
 3. Do you need to use Senior Shuttle service to get to your first stop or from your last stop to your actual destination? If so:
 - a. Make your Senior Shuttle reservations as soon as possible.
 - b. Make sure the Senior Shuttle can get you to your stop, destination and return stop in time to make all connections.
 - c. Remember, Senior Shuttle services need an extended window of time. (Usually 15 to 20 minutes)

Remember: Not all areas of the county have Senior Shuttle or Dial-A-Ride services.

- Bring your wallet or purse with your identification and any medications you may need before you return home.
- Make sure you have the correct fare or passes for all buses you will be riding.
- Bring necessary clothing, especially if the weather is inclement or if you may find yourself returning later than planned.
- Bring a small flashlight in your pocket or purse.
- Bring your cell phone (if you have one).

The "Go To" People

Phone numbers for assistance from Rideshare, all transit providers & the Senior Center are listed on the back page of this brochure.

➤ At your first boarding stop

- Be 5 minutes early.
- Make sure you are at the correct stop (transfer points often have many bus stops together).
- Check to make sure you are headed in the correct direction. (Bus stops are often across the street from each other)
- Stay at the bus stop and watch for your bus number.
- Be standing and ready, so the driver knows you are getting onboard.
- Make sure you have all of your belongings before you board the bus.
- Make sure you are boarding the correct bus. (Ask the driver)

➤ On the bus

- Pay your fare or show your pass.
- Transfers:
 1. If you need a transfer, ask the driver for one as you board the bus.
 2. If you are not sure, ask the driver right away.
- Sit toward the front so you can see where you are going and hear the driver.

➤ "Ask the driver"

- Let the driver know where you are going and then ask if you are on the correct bus.
- Let the driver know that you are a new rider and are happy to hear their suggestions.
- Ask the driver to announce your stop.
- If you need help, ask for it as early in your trip as possible.
- Ask the driver when the last returning bus leaves your destination stop today.

➤ The "End of the Line"

- Signal with the cord or the bar as soon as you know your stop is next.
- Make sure you have all of your belongings.
- Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before you stand to exit.
- Exit before new passengers board.
- Be careful exiting, watch your step, and watch the curb.
- Look around to become familiar with the area near your stop.
- Remember when you will need to catch your bus to return home.
- Have a good day at your destination.

Regional Transit Choices

The Regional Transit Authority (**RTA**) operates connecting services in our county along with many of the local transit services in your neighborhood. With service from San Miguel and Cambria in the north to Santa Maria in the south, **RTA** moves more people, more miles every day, to keep our lives productive. You will find the basic **RTA** route information here and on the individual route brochures.

➤ **RTA Route #10**

- San Luis Obispo, 5-Cities, Nipomo & Santa Maria
- Fixed route, hourly service
- 6:00 AM to 7:50 PM weekdays
8:00 AM to 7:50 PM Saturday
6:00 AM to 6:50 PM Sunday
- \$1.00 to \$2.00 one-way, Seniors pay half the regular fare

➤ **Transfer Points**

- To & from **SCAT**
Pismo Beach "Prime Outlets"
- To & from **SLO Transit**
County Government Center
(Osos & Palm Streets)
- To & from **SMAT**
Santa Maria Towne Center Mall

The "Go To" People

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5-Cities, Local Transit Choices

The "5-Cities" area is Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Oceano, Pismo Beach and Shell Beach. South County Area Transit (**SCAT**) is the fixed route transit service in this area. Senior shuttle services are operated by **Ride-On**.

➤ **SCAT Routes # 21, 23, 24**

- Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Oceano, Pismo Beach & Shell Beach
- 5:29 AM to 10:24 PM weekdays
6:29 AM to 8:24 PM Saturday
6:29 AM to 7:24 PM Sunday
- \$1.00 one-way, Seniors \$.50 one-way

➤ **Transfer Points**

- To & from all **SCAT** routes
Ramona Garden Park
- To & from **RTA**
Pismo Beach "Prime Outlets"

➤ **South County Senior Shuttle**

- Arroyo Grande, Avila Beach, Grover Beach, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo Beach, Shell Beach & San Luis Obispo
- 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM by reservation
- Tuesday & Thursday only
- \$3.00 one way

➤ **5-Cities Senior Shuttle**

- Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Oceano, Pismo Beach & Shell Beach
- 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM by reservation
- Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
- \$3.00 one way

The "Go To" People!

The information you need is just a phone call away. Most telephone numbers are answered from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. After hours, please leave a phone number for a callback the next business day.

➤ **SLO Regional Rideshare**

Rideshare is your front line support with loads of answers and individualized trip planning assistance. If they don't have an answer you need, they know where to find it. Rideshare makes riding the bus easy. Call them at 541-2277, or on the web at www.rideshare.org.

➤ **RTA & SCAT**

For information and assistance with South County Area Transit & Regional Transit Authority routes, call 541-2228.

➤ **Senior Shuttles (Ride-On)**

For reservations for the South County & 5-Cities Senior shuttles, call 541-8747.

➤ **Central Coast Senior Center**

Your "go to" person is the Center's receptionist at 481-7886.

➤ **SLO Transit** (San Luis Obispo City)

For public transit information within the City of San Luis Obispo, call 541-2877

➤ **SMAT** (Santa Maria Area Transit)

For public transit information in the Santa Maria area, call 928-5624.



Let's Go! Five Cities

Your guide for using public transportation

Public transportation is an important service for residents and visitors in San Luis Obispo County. You may be a frequent rider or completely new to this form of travel.

People, just like you, who have found transit services to be a special key to remaining mobile without use of a private car, have prepared the information you will find here.

With this brochure, the route maps for each part of your trip, the driver of every bus you ride, and the phone numbers of the "Go To" people, you will never feel alone while riding public transit on the Central Coast.

Take a look inside for the easy steps to getting started using public transit.

Welcome!