Peak-hour Pacific Surfliner train service between Ventura and south Santa Barbara County began operating in April 2018. The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) is making available special pricing for monthly and 10-ride passes, funding free connecting shuttle service from the Santa Barbara and Goleta stations to employment centers, and has installed bike lockers at all three South Coast train stations. Visit the Traffic Solutions website for more information about this new commuting option.

This edition of the County of Santa Barbara's Sustainability Newsletter is all about getting around sustainably to lessen the load on the planet and your wallet.

Whether biking, walking, carpooling or using transit, Traffic Solutions and the County Transportation Division are here to help. Using alternative transportation can save money, reduce stress, and have a smaller environmental footprint. Traffic Solutions and the County offer programs to help you learn about and sample these different types of transportation to find what works best for you.

Deciding to try the bus or train means figuring out how to purchase your pass, where the nearest stops are, and the schedule that works best for you. The first step is figuring out what transit system connects your home and work. For commuters from North County, there’s the Clean Air Express. South County has the Coastal Express bus...
providing service from Ventura County, Amtrak Pacific Surfliner train, and Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District buses and shuttles. Explore all these options on Traffic Solutions’ Transit Guide, and be sure to ask about the Try Transit program to receive a free multi-ride pass. If transit is not a viable option, carpooling or vanpooling can be a great alternative. Visit SmartRide.org to connect with available carpoolers who live or work near you.

It’s great to bike, use transit, carpool, vanpool, or walk to work, but what if you have an emergency—you might be stranded! Don’t worry. Traffic Solutions will cover the cost with its Emergency Ride Home Program. It’s available up to 4 times per year, not to exceed $220 in a year. If you have an emergency and need a ride from work (on a day you used sustainable transportation), call a taxi, car rental company, or Lyft/Uber. Pay for your ride home and get a receipt. Afterwards, complete the reimbursement form and we’ll mail you a reimbursement check after verifying your information.

For many, biking is the preferred method that gets you outside and active. The County Transportation Division makes our streets safer for cyclists by installing bike lanes and paths, like the recently completed San Jose Creek Bike Path that connects Eastern Goleta Valley with the Calle Real corridor. Every May, Traffic Solutions hosts CycleMAYnia with over 40 bike-related events. Many events are sponsored by community members and can help you build confidence on a bike, explore new trails, create bike accessories, or enjoy a bike-in-movie.

No matter your mode of alternative transportation, The County and Traffic Solutions have a way to support you. Even just one trip a week can make a lasting difference!
your health and it creates community. I've watched people become dear friends from riding the bus together.

**What do you think is the County’s biggest opportunity in becoming more sustainable?**
The human capital we have in our small county is enormous. There are so many people doing really great work around green energy. I think we have an enormous opportunity there.

---

**Did You Know?**

**Want to cut your carbon footprint, lower stress, and save money? Try a green commute!**

A green commute includes forms of transportation that don't rely on driving alone, like carpooling, taking the bus or train, and walking and biking. Here’s a little motivation for you to try a green commute:

Every day in California, 7 tons of smog-forming gases are kept out of the air because of commuters choosing to ride their bikes instead of driving. Want to get started biking? Check out the [Santa Barbara County Bike Map](#) to figure out your best route to work.

If you use public transportation, you’re helping the country save 4 billion gallons of gasoline--more than 6,000 Olympic sized swimming pool full--every year. Want to try the bus for free? [Contact Traffic Solutions](#) and ask about the Try Transit program.

**Are you a County of Santa Barbara employee?** Tell us about your commute and be entered to win a $20 Amazon gift card! Traffic Solutions and the [County Sustainability Committee](#) want to learn about your current commute, transit usage, and other transportation options to help identify potential issues and create better commuting options. All completed survey responses will be entered into a random drawing for one of twenty-five $20 Amazon cards provided by Traffic Solutions. Share your feedback before the survey closes on Friday, October 5!

---

**Renewable diesel, what’s that?**

Did you know that the County of Santa Barbara uses clean-burning renewable diesel in County fleet vehicles and equipment? Renewable diesel operates just like petroleum-based diesel, but is made from vegetable oils and waste animal fats. Using renewable diesel improves local air quality, reduces greenhouse gas emissions by up to 80%, and saves money compared to conventional diesel. Now that’s a triple-win!

---

**Hey Isla Vista, bike share is here!**
On August 31, 300 black and teal HOPR bikes rolled onto the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) campus and will be expanding this fall to the streets of Isla Vista. A total of 1,200 bikes will be added as part of the three year contract with CycleHop. Rides are just $1 for 30 minutes and are part of UCSB’s Carbon Neutrality Initiative and the County’s commitment to help connect communities, reduce traffic congestion, and lower air pollution. The bikes can be parked and securely locked anywhere. An integrated smart lock allows users to quickly and easily unlock bikes with a mobile app. Download the app, sign-up, and get pedaling in Isla Vista!

**Sign Up**

---

**Looking for $$ to upgrade heavy-duty equipment?**

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District is offering its 2018 Clean Air Grants for diesel engines. Public and private entities can receive up to $150,000 for an eligible project, including marine engines, agricultural tractors and engines, and school buses. Grants will be awarded first come, first served. Apply starting September 18.

**Apply Today**

---

County of Santa Barbara | Sustainability Division | sustainability@countyofsb.org | County Sustainability Committee