

Mobility by other means. There's nothing better for your health than a brisk walk. For seniors and the disabled, Lakewood offers the reservation-only DASH paratransit service.



Dial-A-Lift is a service of Long Beach Transit for the mobility impaired. Dial-A-Lift's curb-to-curb service takes eligible passengers to any destination in Long Beach, Signal Hill, and Lakewood. Like Lakewood DASH, pre-registration is required to ride Long Beach Dial-A-Lift. For registration information, call 562-591-8753 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Everybody into the pool. Why not share the costs of commuting? Carpooling even once a week will help reduce fill-ups and put fewer miles on your car.

To find a carpool, go to the ride matching service provided by www.commutessmart.info or call 511 to have an agent help you.

A vanpool is a group of 5 to 15 people who regularly travel together 30 miles or more (roundtrip) to work. Typically, riders pay a monthly fare and maintenance fee, while drivers ride at a discounted rate in exchange for driving and maintaining the van.

For assistance in joining or forming a car or vanpool, go to www.metro.net and click on the carpool and vanpool links.

in and around downtown Los Angeles. The LADOT home page has information on fares, routes and other helpful tips.

www.octa.net The Orange County Transportation Authority's website has trip planning information for commuters traveling south from Lakewood.

www.metrolinktrains.com Metrolink is a regional commuter rail service. Its website offers trip planning information for weekday and weekend passengers.

www.amtrak.com Amtrak's homepage links to train schedules, fares, and ticket purchase options.

www.google.com/maps Google Maps allows users to map trips by car, public transit, bicycle, and on foot.

www.commutessmart.info CommuteSmart is a free service that makes it easy for Southern Californians to share the ride via car and vanpools.

www.go511.com Go511 provides real-time information about traffic conditions along with loads of useful resources for transit users.

Click for more information. The web offers an express route to transportation solutions. Most transit sites include trip planning tools, and some have apps that can be downloaded to mobile devices.

www.lakewoodcity.org/transit Lakewood's website includes a guide to local transportation options for getting around town and the Long Beach area.

www.lbtransit.com Long Beach Transit's website has schedules and tips to assist riders along with a trip planning tool. Bus arrival times are available for mobile phone users.

www.accessla.org Access Services offers transit options for the disabled residents of Los Angeles County.

www.metro.net The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's website has schedules, a trip planner and tools for updating TAP fare cards. Mobile phone users can connect for bus arrival times.

www.ladottransit.com The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation provides local bus service to destinations

Lakewood Transit Guide—2016



Union Station. Opened in 1939, Union Station was the last great train station built in the United States. It's both a reminder of the region's past and a busy hub for public transit in Los Angeles County today. At Union Station, bus lines, light rail systems, subways, and regional and national rail lines converge.



Traffic. It's bad and it's getting worse. Why not let someone else worry about the driving? Take a bus or a train and discover the advantages of public transit. Lakewood's 2016 Transit Guide will show you how.

The pace of new transit development has gone into high gear. The extension of the Gold Line to Azusa and the completion of the Expo Line to Santa Monica mark big steps in giving transit users new ways to connect work, shopping, leisure and home. Cost-saving, energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly, the transit choices that Lakewood residents enjoy in 2016 are real alternatives to freeway gridlock. Transit choices are better than ever.

The transition to TAP cards on nearly all regional transit providers also means greater convenience in paying fares – just “tap” and ride.

Long Beach Transit (known as LBT) buses continue to offer a good value for trips to destinations in Lakewood and around Long Beach. Dedicated bus lanes have begun to cut longer commutes.

The L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (which calls itself Metro) is rapidly building the regional connector under downtown Los Angeles. It will tie together the expanded Gold and Expo lines to the Blue Line from Long Beach and the subway network under Wilshire Boulevard and to Van Nuys. Historic Union Station downtown is the hub for all these transit choices, along with Amtrak and Metrolink trains and LAX flyaway buses and long-distance bus services.

Inside this 2016 Lakewood Transit Guide is advice on alternatives to

On the go with more transit New rail lines bring Santa Monica and the foothill communities closer.

solo driving . . . where to find transit planning tools . . . and how to get answers to questions on everything having to do with getting around the Southland.

Just one trip a week. Public transit isn't only about daily commuting. How about a trip to Long Beach or Los Angeles to see the sights...and their arts and entertainment districts? Or ride the Blue Line to Staples Center for a game or concert? Or the Green Line to LAX?

No matter the destination, Lakewood is a good place to leave the car at home. Public transit is close to every neighborhood. And walkable, bikeable streets that lead to Lakewood's schools, parks and neighborhood shopping are a vital part of the city's design heritage.

You'll find that taking just one round-trip a week by public transit can help bring driving costs under control. Gas, insurance and maintenance add up fast. Driving a typical car 15,000 miles a year costs up to \$8,558.

If you're new to public transit, your first ride is likely to be on a bus. The systems that serve Lakewood run modern, clean-fueled coaches that make getting to your destination easy, comfortable and environmentally sound. To make using bus transit even more appealing, Lakewood has upgraded more than 100 bus stops in recent years. Many have solar-powered lighting to help evening travelers.

LBT and Metro buses accept fares from the same TAP cards required on Metro trains. (Every rider needs a TAP card. Parents, for

example, cannot pay multiple fares for their children on one card.)

LBT's Transit and Visitor Information Center (at the southeast corner of First Street and Pine Avenue) sells TAP cards, issues LBT senior ID cards, and provides trip planning help.

LBT operates nearly a dozen bus routes in Lakewood. Most of them connect to downtown Long Beach. Many of these routes serve Lakewood Center while other routes connect Lakewood with Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Paramount and Signal Hill.

LBT lines 191 and 192 make quick connections to the Del Amo station of the Metro Blue Line for rail service to downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach and to LAX via the light rail Green Line. Metro local buses 265 and 266 also make connections to the Green Line station on Lakewood Boulevard at the 105 Freeway.

LBT buses from downtown Long Beach can be boarded at the Transit Mall on 1st Street, between Long Beach Boulevard and Pine Avenue. Transfers to the Blue Line can be made just west of Pine Avenue on 1st Street.

At adjacent bus stops, riders can transfer to free LBT buses that serve destinations around downtown Long Beach, including the Queen Mary, Shoreline Village, and the Aquarium of the Pacific. With summer, LBT's Aquabus and Aqualink boat services connect to waterfront attractions and tourist destinations.

Quick tips for new bus riders.

It's a good idea to plan ahead before you get on the bus:

■ **Know before you go.** Get a copy of the Long Beach bus schedule from a Lakewood library or by calling 562-591-2301 or clicking to LBT's website at www.lbtransit.com. You can use the site's online trip planner or Google Maps to plan your route. To use trip planners, you'll need the location of your starting and destination points, as well as the time you want to leave or arrive.

■ **Get ready.** Before you take the bus, review your stops and transfer points. Be at your starting point at least ten

minutes early. The LBT website (www.lbtransit.com) will tell you when the next bus is approaching and the arrival times of later buses on your route. Metro (www.metro.net/riding/nextrip) provides a similar service. There are apps for your mobile phone too.

■ **Find your next stop.** Nearly all buses have audio and visual announcements of the stops ahead. Remember to signal a block ahead of your stop by touching the "stop requested" strip near your seat or pulling the "stop requested" line over the window.

■ **Have the exact fare.** Fares and transfer policies differ between systems, so always look up fare amounts before you leave. All systems require exact change to ride. If you become a frequent rider, you'll probably want to get a monthly pass. There's a significant cost saving. There are also discount fares for seniors and students, but these vary.

■ **Get current information.** If you need more help for local trips, you can speak to an LBT information specialist Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. by calling 562-591-2301.

Metro trains to the beach and foothills.

If you need to commute to downtown Los Angeles, the Metro Blue Line can put you at 7th and Flower streets in less than 40 minutes. There's never a SigAlert!

If you want to explore Long Beach, the southern end of the Blue Line terminates in a loop that's close to the Aquarium of the Pacific, Terrace Theater, the Long Beach main library, the

Convention Center and the Pike entertainment district.

Lakewood residents are close to three Blue Line stops. Just west of the Long Beach (710) Freeway, the Del Amo station is elevated over Del Amo Boulevard and Sana Fe Street. The station has a convenient 302-space, park-and-ride lot.

Further south, the Willow station is located across from Long Beach Memorial Medical Center at Willow Street and Long Beach Boulevard.

Many ways to get around. The Blue Line (top) goes from Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles. Rush-hour service on the Red and Purple subway lines is frequent and fast. Long Beach buses link Lakewood to destinations throughout Long Beach. And Metro's extensive local bus system includes local routes in Lakewood and express routes along major commuting corridors. MetroLink trains from Union Station (bottom) tie together a vast region from Oceanside to Oxnard.

If you're heading to LAX, consider the Green Line connection at Lakewood Boulevard and the Century (105) Freeway. While the Green Line doesn't go directly to airport terminals, a free shuttle bus does. The shuttle takes passengers and their baggage to and from the Aviation Station at Imperial Highway and Aviation Boulevard.

The Gold Line connects downtown to East Los Angeles. The extension from Union Station now goes to Azusa.

The Expo Line connects with the Blue Line and subway lines at 7th and Flower. It goes from downtown to USC, Culver City and now Santa Monica.

The Purple Line subway connects downtown Los Angeles west to the Wilshire corridor (ending at Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue) and east to Union Station. The Red Line subway goes to Hollywood and Vine in the heart of Tinseltown and on to Van Nuys.

The same TAP card used on buses is used on trains. There are vending machines at every station to issue a card or to add fare value. You can continue a one-way trip on Metro buses or trains without the cost of a transfer if you use your TAP card.

Remember to tap your TAP card every time you transfer even if you are using the free transfer option.

During peak hours, trains pick up passengers every 5 to 10 minutes. For non-rush hours, weekends and holidays, expect a somewhat longer wait between trains.

Most rail lines start before 5:00 a.m. and some keep running past midnight, but trains are less frequent during late night hours. Be sure to plan your return trip before you leave home.

Security measures on trains include intercoms in each rail car and the presence of Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies on trains and station platforms.

A place to park before you ride. Park & Ride lots throughout the Metro system provide safe, convenient places to park and transfer to a bus or train. Some lots have fees. To find a Park & Ride lot at any point along your commute, go to www.metro.net.

Bikes are cool. Lakewood's flat terrain and clusters of parks, schools and stores make biking an option that's as good for your health as it is for your pocketbook. Just ask the increasing number of people who use their bikes to commute to work, take trips around town or connect to bus and rail services. Bikes are a real alternative to driving!

All LBT and Metro buses have bike racks. And Metro allows riders to bring their bike on board light rail and subway cars anytime. Bicycle racks and storage lockers for bikes can be found at many Metro stations.

Both Long Beach and Los Angeles are expanding the number of bike lanes on downtown streets. Lakewood has its own system of bike lanes and paths for bike riders.

Entrance points in Lakewood to the San Gabriel River Bike Path are at every major overcrossing of the river. From Del Amo Boulevard, the path takes riders south for six miles through Rynerson and El Dorado parks to Alamitos Bay. The northern path terminates in the San Gabriel foothills.



Call for more information about your Lakewood transit choices.

Bellflower Dial-a-Ride	562-865-RIDE	Long Beach Transit	562-591-2301
Bikestation (Long Beach Transit Gallery)	562-436-BIKE	Long Beach Dial-A-Lift (van service)	562-591-8753
Cerritos on Wheels (bus service)	562-928-4269	Metropolitan Transportation Authority	323-GO-METRO
DowneyLink (bus service)	562-529-5465	Norwalk Transit	562-929-5550
Lakewood DASH (van service)	562-924-0149	Orange County Transit Authority	714-636-7433