Commute Connection, a program of the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG), is offering lease fare subsidies to encourage commuters to use alternate means of transportation when commuting to and from work. The program promotes air quality and reduces traffic congestion.

LEASE FARE SUBSIDIES

Commute Connection will pay a monthly lease fare subsidy according to the subsidy agreement, to a qualified vanpool provider (Vanpool Company), for the duration of a vanpool lease, as long as the vanpool provider and vanpool driver comply with the program guidelines and requirements.

Lease Fare Subsidy Types:

1. New Vanpool Subsidy ($200/month, per van for first year and $100/month per van after first year)
   Commute Connection will pay $200 per month for 12 consecutive months (one year) to new vanpools. A new vanpool is considered a vanpool that is not currently receiving a subsidy and has entered into a new lease agreement as of September 1, 2015. After one year, the vanpool will receive $100 per month/per van for the term of the leased van.

2. Long-term Subsidy Only ($100/month, per van)
   For existing vans which have received a Commute Connection subsidy in the past, the long-term subsidy of $100 per month, per van will be available to vans which satisfy and comply with the subsidy guidelines for the term of the leased van as of September 1, 2015.

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. The van must be leased from an authorized vanpool provider as certified by the Commute Connection program.
2. The vanpool and all participants must be registered with the Commute Connection program.
3. The van must have a minimum seating capacity of seven including the vanpool driver.
4. San Joaquin, Stanislaus, or Merced Counties must be the vanpool origin, destination or both.
5. The vanpool must be used to commute to and from work.
6. The vanpool provider, vanpool driver, and SJCOG must sign Commute Connection’s Lease Fare Subsidy Agreement to activate the subsidy.

The new Commute Connection Subsidy program is effective as of September 1, 2015 and will be in effect through June 30, 2017. Continuation of the subsidies will be subject to an evaluation and funding appropriations.
7. The vanpool driver must keep Commute Connection informed of any changes to rider’s information (including current address, phone number, email address, etc.).
8. The vanpool driver must provide daily routes; pick up locations, time of departure and arrival to and from work.
9. The vanpool provider must have the ability to invoice SJCOG for the vanpool subsidy on a monthly basis.
10. Subsidy agreement will be in effect as long as the vanpool driver complies with the program guidelines and requirements (subject to continued funding appropriations).
11. All information supplied by the vanpool driver must be accurate, current, and complete.
12. Owner operated vans, private transit, private shuttles or private vanpools are not eligible to participate.
13. Vanpool Provider is the Vanpool Company.

Commute Connection’s Website: commuteconnection.com
Email: commuteconnection@sjcog.org