

## What is a Vanpool

TranGO's Vanpool Program operates and maintains the Vanpool program serving commuter groups with an origin or destination within the Okanogan County Transit Authority boundaries.

### At a Glance: Starting a Vanpool Group

1. You need 5 to 9 people, to organize a Vanpool. The more people, the lower your individual fare; so keep recruiting.
2. Choose a primary driver and at least one back-up driver.
3. You will need a contact person for the group. Any rider, including drivers, can be the group contact.

**Before you begin** – Driver and contact may attend an orientation class. Once the orientations are complete, your van will be assigned and scheduled for pick-up. Once the group is ready, you decide on a route, pick-up points and schedule.

**TranGO Vanpool Fares** – Each Vanpool group pays a monthly fare to TranGO based on daily round-trip miles. The group fare is divided among all paying Vanpool members. Fares are paid on the 1st of each month by autopay. We collect your credit card information upfront and unless there is a rate change, we do the rest.

It is worth asking your employer if they are one of many who offer transportation subsidies.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: How much do riders pay?**

A: Vanpool fares are based on the number of Vanpool riders and the daily round-trip mileage. Vanpool fares are paid in advance on a monthly basis and are due to TranGO on the first of the month.

### **Q: Do Vanpools pick riders up at their front door?**

A: The route and schedule for each Vanpool are decided by the group. Some vans go door-to-door, but most Vanpools establish one or two convenient pick-up points.

### **Q: What happens to the Vanpool group when the driver is sick, on vacation or has to work late?**

A: Each Vanpool group should have at least two approved Back-up Drivers who can take over in case of an emergency.

### **Q: What happens when a rider is sick or on vacation?**

A: Payment of the monthly fare reserves your seat whether you ride or not. Riders do not receive a refund for missed days. If a rider is planning a vacation, the rider can sublet the seat to a temporary rider from the Vanpool waiting list. Part time riders can also ride in a vacant seat and pay a daily fare. Temporary riders will be recorded and reported on the Ridership Report.

### **Q: What about insurance coverage?**

A: TranGO purchases insurance coverage.

### **Q: Who is responsible for routine maintenance of the van?**

A: Maintenance is a joint effort between the Vanpool group and TranGO. The Primary Driver completes daily, weekly and monthly inspections and all riders should report anything unusual. TranGO schedules the van's routine preventive service every 4,000 miles and handles emergencies as they arise.

### **Q: Who pays for gas for the vehicle?**

A: TranGO pays for the gas. Each driver is assigned a fuel card with their own individual personal identification number that is used when fueling the van.



TranGO has Vanpool options. Contact the office today to get more information by email at: [admin@okanogantransit.com](mailto:admin@okanogantransit.com)

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## Vanpool Overview

Smart commuters like you are seizing the opportunity to turn costly and often frustrating daily commutes into a more pleasant experience.

Vanpooling saves on your daily commute costs, wear and tear on your personal vehicle and, because you Vanpool, you reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A Vanpool group is comprised of 5 to 10 commuters who share the cost of operating the van. Some van members play important roles in the group such as volunteer drivers or contacts that help maintain the smooth operation of the van.

Did you know TranGO Vanpools are uniquely designed to suit your commuting needs? As long as the van starts or ends in Okanogan County Transit Authority boundaries, your Vanpool can go anywhere.



## Why Vanpool?

A Vanpool is usually made up of 5 to 10 people who have similar commute routes and work schedules and are going to the same general area.

TranGO provides the van and everything else for successful ridesharing. Rider support services, maintenance, insurance, fuel, tires and training are all wrapped up into one monthly fee, divided equally among the Vanpool members.

There are no long-term commitments; Vanpool agreements are month to month.

## Reasons to Vanpool

**Save Money** – A rider’s monthly fare is generally less than one week’s gas.

**Save Your Vehicle** – According to regional commute statistics, 80% of your vehicle’s wear and tear comes from driving to and from work.

**Cut Out the Stress** – Vanpoolers can visit, doze, listen to podcasts, read the paper or pay bills while getting to and from work.

