



e-Newsletter

CalVans, California Vanpool Authority Quarterly Newsletter



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Who We Are

The California Vanpool Authority (CalVans) is a public transit agency providing public vanpools to those electing to commute to work in a non-profit manner; this includes agricultural workers and non-agricultural workers. The service provided by CalVans is recognized by local, state and federal agencies as a safe and cost effective method of getting to work in a shared ride vehicle.

How Can CalVans Help YOU?

If you would like to bring the benefits of CalVans to your operation, contact the California Vanpool Authority Toll-Free at **866-655-5444**.

CalVans operates Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on major holidays.

The CalVans main office is located at:
1340 North Drive
Hanford, Ca 93230

CalVans also has satellite offices in Imperial, Kern, Monterey, Ventura, and San Joaquin.



Projections for Summer 2018

In our last newsletter we asked that you let us know how many vans you might be using in the Imperial/Yuma area this winter. About a third of you, responded. Given the fact that we doubled the number of vanpools in the south this year we are anticipating a corresponding increase going into the summer months. We peaked at about

Winter Migration of Vanpools

The winter migration of vanpools to the Imperial/Yuma area is taking place. Last year we had around 120 vanpools working in the area, this year the number will exceed 160. We have increased Staff in the area to keep up with the growth and make sure we stay on top of providing support for those using our program. Most vanpools are being moved to the region by the drivers as their work ends in Santa Maria and Salinas Valley areas. CalVans staff has been able to move a number of vans from its Hanford office to Imperial but is limited by its ability to do so. If you need vans in the Imperial area we may ask that you pick them up in Hanford.

Last year we noted a number of drivers who failed to keep the trash picked up in the vehicle and or turn in the weekly payment sheet. The Agreement the driver signs when getting the van states that the driver is responsible for keeping the van clean and turning in paperwork. CalVans realizes that the vans are being operated in extremely dirty conditions and the floor of the van will be covered in dirt. We are not concerned with the dirt on the floor but the trash that accumulates inside the van. This includes items such as cans, bottles, potato chip bags and such. CalVans staff will do periodic inspections and let the drivers know when the vans are not being kept clean. If in re-inspections we find the van has not been cleaned, the van may be disabled until it is cleaned and re-inspected. Missing paperwork may also result in action being taken. Without Driver Payments we are unable to prepare a bill for the FLC or grower.

370 vans in July, with everything we had was put to use. At one point we were assigning our spare vans. We continue to get calls from FLCs and growers that are new to our system and looking to use our program in the future.

Funding approved by the California Air Resources Board will allow of the purchase of another 160 vans this summer. This should more than meet our needs, if they arrive before the start of summer. In case they don't, we need you to let us know how many vans you will need this summer; as well as when and where. Only those that provide information can be assured vehicles Those that don't may be left out.

Complying with the State Labor Commissioner

Some of you may have thought you were done when you became TA (Transportation Authorized) and secured a blue card for your employee. If you meet the definition of a Farm Labor Contractor per California Labor Code §1682, you need to obtain an FLC license through the CA State Labor Commissioner's office. They understand the CalVans program and are working with us to make registration and annual updates as easy as possible for you. To that end we have developed several forms that will help you when you do your annual updates with the department. The forms as well a Certificate of Insurance and an authorization for the release of your employees' MVR can be found on our website at the following location:

<http://www.calvans.org/about-us/public-notice>

Complying with the State Labor Commissioner (Cont.)

Questions regarding registration can be directed to:
Melinda Ramirez, Senior Deputy Labor Commissioner

770 E. Shaw Ave. Suite 222
Fresno CA 93710

 559-248-1893

 510-285-3399

USDOL Update

A reminder to those who are having their employees drive our vanpools as FLCEs, make sure you have submitted the **Driver Agreement** and the **Employer Acknowledgement** form to the FDOL. Failure to do so will result in fines if an inspection by the FDOL finds that your driver is not registered and does not have their blue card. The process is relatively simple, with forms that can be found online. FDOL staff is also expediting the FLCE applications. Most are approved within two weeks, if applications are complete and all signatures are in place, please double check your applications before sending them in. Call our office at **866-655-5444** if you have questions on registration. You may also call the National Farm Labor Certificate Processing Unit by phone or mail at the following:

 415-241-3505

Wage and Hour Division
907th Street Suite 13-100
San Francisco, CA 94103

If you answer **YES** to any of the questions below, **you may be subject to a fine and/or have your van pulled**. You can get ahead of your next USDOL inspection by being in compliance.

- Are those driving CalVans vehicles receiving adequate compensation for hours of driving?
- Is this compensation disclosed in your WH516 (Terms and Conditions of Employment)?
- Are your drivers personally collecting money from their riders?
- Are your drivers or Foremen letting a non-authorized driver drive the van?
- Are your drivers using the van for personal use?

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

We have a number of calls concerning new rules by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration that take effect in 2018. These rules require truck and bus drivers to have automated devices that track the amount of time the driver is on duty (available to drive) and actually driving. The goal of the new regulations is to make it impossible for commercial drivers (bus and truck drivers) to drive more than the rules allow. The automated system replaces the log books that the drivers used in the past. Below I have shown a list of those that must comply with the new ruling:

Who Must Comply?

Most drivers must follow the HOS Regulations if they drive a commercial motor vehicle, or CMV.

In general, a CMV is a vehicle that is used as part of a business and is involved in interstate commerce and fits any of these descriptions:

- Weighs 10,001 pounds or more
- Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 10,001 pounds or more
- Is designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver) not for compensation
- Is designed or used to transport 9 or more passengers (including the driver) for compensation
- Is transporting hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placards

The information above can be found on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) website, www.fmcsa.dot.gov

CalVans is a public transit agency providing vanpools, charging a fare, not a fee and per PUC Section 5353 (e) Transportation service rendered by a publicly owned transit system; is exempt from the Hours of Service requirement noted above.

Updated Vehicle Tracking System

We are completing our move from Webtech to the new Silent Passenger system. This is the system used to track who is driving the vans and where they travel. From the drivers standpoint the systems are similar. They require the driver to either use a FOB to log into the van or they may enter a 4 digit PIN in the Garmin mounted on the dash. If they are recognized as an approved driver the van can then be started. The system then displays the van, drivers name, van's location and how long the van has been at it present location. You may also plot the vans travel for a specific period, either by mapping its path or by running a report, three examples are shown on the next page.

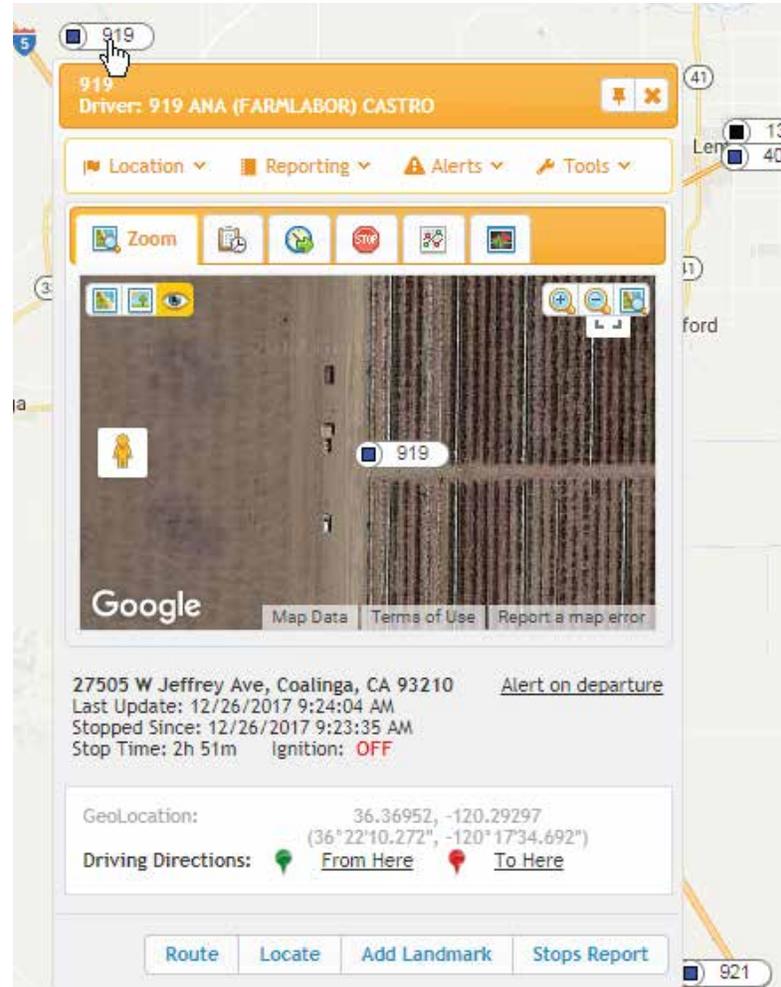
To use Silent Passenger you will need to send us a request with your email at calvans@co.kings.ca.us. We will then set you up in the system which will generate an email from Silent Passenger. You will then create a password log on to the system. We can also set up reports for you if you wish. The reports then run daily, until you let us know you want them turned off.



Updated Vehicle Tracking System (Cont.)



Routing Report



Mapping Report

Driver	Vehicle	Reading Time	Street	City	State	Event Name	Mileage	Hours
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 6:25 AM	Porvenir Est	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 6:53 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	5.97	00:28:41
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 7:40 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 7:41 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.03	00:00:49
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 8:15 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 8:17 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.05	00:02:28
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 9:34 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 9:34 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.01	00:00:25
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 10:15 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 10:16 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.03	00:00:41
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 10:54 AM	W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 10:56 AM	18463 W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.04	00:01:56
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 11:43 AM	18463 W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition On		
989 CARMELITA (FARMLABOR) JIMENEZ	989	12/26/17 11:45 AM	18463 W Mitchell Ave	Huron	CA	Ignition Off	0.04	00:02:23
Totals for 989							6.17	00:37:23

Report



Expanded Service Areas

As we prepare this newsletter there are two additional counties preparing to join CalVans. Both Stanislaus Council of Governments and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority will become members in the next several months. This will add two new members to the CalVans board taking us to 14 members serving 16 counties.

Of special note is the fact that some of the member agencies provide incentives to promote vanpools, including farm labor vanpools. They provide up to \$400 a month in subsidies that can be used to reduce your cost.

The following Agencies provide a subsidy for vanpools entering or leaving their county (See graph).

County	Subsidy
San Joaquin	\$400
Riverside	\$400
Tulare	\$300
Fresno	\$600
Merced	\$200
Stanislaus*	\$200
San Bernardino*	\$400

* Subject to membership in CalVans

Marketing Opportunities

You can use our vans to promote you company, let workers know about upcoming programs and or regulations. Our vans are also an excellent place to advertise for employees everyone wants. Simply place an ad on the side of our van; your message is then viewed at the work site, between work and home as well when the vehicle is parked for the evening at the driver’s home.

The following picture illustrates how an ad could look. The ads are placed on either side of the van. The cost is \$50 per month, per van, per side with an initial production cost. We have graphic artist on staff if you need help designing the ad, camera ready artwork is also accepted. For any questions regarding the artwork please reach out to Gabriela Pacheco at gabriela.pacheco@co.kings.ca.us or 559-852-4727.



Share your day with CalVans



*Vanpool 909 posing for a picture.
-Sacramento, Ca.*



*At a farmworker appreciation event with our
Transit Aide Erica, who covers Kern County.
-Delano, Ca.*



*Ready for the luncheon!
-Salinas, Ca.*



*At the Tulare County Fair, giving out great
information and goodies.
-Tulare, Ca.*



*Getting our vans clean and ready
-El Centro, Ca*



*New partnership with SunLine, vanpools
are now available in Riverside!
-Thousand Palms, Ca*



*A great photo opportunity.
-Huron, Ca*



*We love attending events and informing
people about the benefits of vanpools.
-Bakersfield, Ca*



*Our vanpoolers keeping their van clean.
They're the best!
-Salinas, Ca*





ANNUAL YEAR END LUNCHEON / HEALTH FAIR

On October 21, 2017 Premium Packing held their Annual Year End Luncheon and Health Fair. Premium Packing Inc. is a family owned company that has been providing companies with farm labor since 1951. Premium Packing is one of the many companies that use CalVans for their transportation needs; we were delighted to be part of their annual event and take time to recognize CalVans vanpool drivers. Drivers who are truly making a difference every day in the communities they serve.

For the past year CalVans has been working to secure \$3 million in state funding to keep providing vanpools to workers so that they may continue to have reliable means to get to work. This would not be possible without the advocacy from Assemblymembers like Assemblymember Anna Caballero, who currently represents our 30th Assembly District. She has been a strong advocate for our farming and agricultural community, and has been a true ally for working families in California.

Together with Assemblymember Anna Caballero and Premium Packing, CalVans recognized 5 vanpool drivers; Dario Sauza Olvera, Jose Luis Antonio, Luis Godinez Islas, Anastasio Gutierrez Hernandez and Jose Manuel Mendoza Avila who are a great example of what a volunteer driver should be, because of their efforts, their co-workers commute to and from work in a safe and reliable way.

For more photos of the event, please visit our Facebook page, CalVans Ag Vanpools or click on the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?f-bid=1468423776604397&set=a.1468520606594714&type=3&theater>

