

NEXT STOP NEWS

INSIDE:



SacRT will hold a Zoom public meeting on SacRT's Fiscal Year 2022 Preliminary Budget on May 3



Elk Grove transit services to join SacRT effective July 1



Additional trips added to 200 series bus service



Alert SacRT App update now available



SacRT to offer free rides to hiring opportunities Wednesday's in May

MAY 2021

SacRT Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Virtual Public Hearing

SacRT will hold a virtual public hearing on SacRT's Fiscal Year 2022 Preliminary Operating and Capital Budget. The hearing will be live streamed on YouTube on Monday, May 10, 2021, during the regularly scheduled SacRT Board of Directors Meeting. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public meeting and hearing is being held virtually.

The following is a list of SacRT's Proposed Program of Project and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Allocations:

- Section 5307 Urbanized Area Program Jobs Access/Reverse Commute Operating Assistance \$1,106,565
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program \$710,000
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act \$28,774,873
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) \$37,854,695

These amounts are subject to change pending actions taken by the Board of Directors prior to the public hearing. View the preliminary budget document at sacrt.com/budget.

In preparation for the Fiscal Year 2022 Preliminary Operating and Capital Budget public hearing, SacRT will hold a Zoom meeting to help answer questions and receive public comment on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

(continued)

If you would like to participate in the public meeting, please use the log in information provided below.

Join Zoom Meeting:

us02web.zoom.us/j/82847269270?pwd=aE-JWdXZGNVFMQW9aOE8zRE5LZU5PUT09
Meeting ID: 828 4726 9270
Passcode: 948687
Join by phone: +1 669 900 6833

Public feedback is an important part of this process and SacRT is providing several opportunities for interested persons and/or agencies to make their views known with respect to the social, economic, and environmental aspects of these projects. Persons not able to attend the virtual meeting who wish to make public comment should contact Jason Johnson, Director of Office of Management & Budget, by phone at 916-212-5088, email to jjohnson@sacrt.com, or by mail to P.O. Box 2110, Sacramento, CA 95812-2110.

Written comment on this item at the SacRT Board meeting can also be submitted via email to boardcomments@sacrt.com by 2 p.m. on the day of the public hearing. Remember to add the agenda item number in the subject line of the email. Comments submitted to the Clerk to the Board are limited to 250 words or less.

SacRT intends to adopt its budget and the FTA Program of Projects at the SacRT Board meeting scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2021 at 5:30 pm, which will also be held virtually on YouTube. If the proposed FTA Program of Projects is significantly revised or amended, a subsequent notice will be published.

To watch the public hearing via YouTube on Monday, May 10, 2021, visit sacrt.com/board for the link.

SacRT is Offering FREE Rides to Downtown/Midtown/R Street Hiring Opportunities

Are you a hard worker? Are you a people person? Are you in need of a job? Every Wednesday from May 5, 2021 through June 16, 2021, SacRT is offering free rides on bus, light rail and SmaRT Ride on-demand microtransit to help job seekers connect with job opportunities at businesses in the Central City.

Downtown Sacramento Partnerships has teamed up with Midtown, R Street and Broadway Districts to promote business in the Central City that are hiring, offering interviews, drop in, and/or accepting applications.

Simply print or screenshot the free ride flyer to use as fare on the day of an interview to ride free. Show to the operator when boarding buses and SmaRT Ride, or have flyer ready to show fare inspectors while riding light rail trains. Visit sacrt.com for details.

Learn more about who's hiring and what to know at GoDowntownSac.com/now-hiring.



RydeFreeRT – Fare-free transit program for youth

Youth in grades TK through 12th can take advantage of RydeFreeRT, the fare-free transit program for youth and students. With RydeFreeRT, youth can ride the entire SacRT transit network, including SacRT buses, light rail, and SmaRT Ride on-demand microtransit service for FREE! RydeFreeRT is available all day, any day of the week during regular SacRT service hours.

Due to distribution limitations resulting from COVID-19, all a student needs to ride for free is a student ID card or a RydeFreeRT card. No sticker is required to ride. Youth who are experiencing homelessness or taking part in foster programs are also allowed to participate in the program, regardless of current residence or school address.

For students and youth who need a replacement card, do not have a student ID, or that do not have a student ID or RydeFreeRT card, they can visit SacRT's Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street (adjacent to the 13th Street Station). For more information, visit rydefreert.com.

Transit Talk with the General Manager

Get all your transit questions answered when you join us for Transit Talk with the General Manager on Friday, May 7, 2021. General Manager/CEO Henry Li will accept questions from the public and provide immediate feedback from noon to 1 p.m. Simply log onto SacRT's monthly chat at sacrt.com. No registration is required to participate. Questions will be accepted two hours before the sessions and throughout the chat. For more information and instructions, visit sacrt.com/onlinechat.

Morrison Creek Station Construction Continues

SacRT construction crews continue to build out the Morrison Creek light rail station. Originally planned as part of the Blue Line to Cosumnes River College light rail extension, the station was not completed with the extension project due to lack of development in the immediate area. However, with federal construction funds set to expire, station construction is underway and will open late summer as a walk on only station. Development of the surrounding area is expected to take place in the near future.

Rider Alert

Additional Trips Added to 200 Series Bus Routes

With area schools reopening, SacRT resumed the 200 series bus service on April 5, 2021, and added additional trips on April 22, 2021.

Visit sacrt.com/schedules or call 916-321-BUSS (2877) for schedule information.

SacRT Expects Ridership Increases as State Begins to Reopen

As more businesses are reopening and people return to work and school, SacRT is expecting to see an increase in ridership on bus, light rail and SacRT GO paratransit services. With decreasing COVID-19 cases and more people getting vaccinated SacRT wants to ensure a successful transition to a return to normalcy, while safely accommodating additional riders.

Masks will continue to be required while riding transit, even if you have been vaccinated. A mask must cover your nose and mouth at all times. Keeping COVID-19 in check is critical to reducing the spread of the virus and speeding up reopening timelines.

California is planning to fully reopen by Tuesday, June 15, 2021, and if California successfully reopens, the State will be lifting nearly all COVID-19 restrictions with the exception of the mask mandate, which will continue.

The safety and health of our employees and customers has been and continues to be a top priority for SacRT and we are taking a number of proactive measures in response to COVID-19, including:

- Blocking off certain seats in buses and light rail trains to provide physical distancing
- Requiring all employees and riders to wear a mask
- Fogging and disinfecting buses, light rail trains, facilities and all touch points
- Urging riders to download ZipPass the free mobile fare app to reduce touchpoints
- Asking customers to not ride transit if they are sick

While riding our system, if you need to report a cleaning or nuisance issue, please download the free Alert SacRT App. You can also call Customer Service at 916-321-BUSS (2877). More information on COVID-19 precautions is available at sacrt.com/covid19.

SacRT installing new smart fare vending machines on the Gold Line

SacRT is continuing to install new smart fare vending machines on the Gold Line. The new smart fare machines have been installed on the Blue and Green Lines. Expected completion for installation on the Gold Line is the end of May.

The new smart machines offer a user-friendly touch-screen interface and provide the following additional features:

- Pay with cash or debit/credit card
- Pay with Google Pay or Apple Pay
- Print single ride tickets and daily, semi-monthly, and monthly passes
- Option to add tickets or passes directly to the ZipPass mobile fare app
- QR code reader
- Audio voice option and screen prompts available in English and Spanish

To learn more about the smart features and more, visit sacrt.com/fvm.

SacRT is Your FREE Ride to COVID-19 Vaccine Sites

SacRT continues to offer free transit rides for everyone who needs to get to a scheduled COVID-19 vaccine appointment location through Monday, May 31, 2021. This includes all vaccination sites in Sacramento County within SacRT's service area, including hospitals, pharmacies, and other immunization locations.

To ride free, customers only need to show a COVID-19 vaccine appointment confirmation in the form of an email, text, or vaccine card, which will serve as valid fare only on the date noted on the appointment confirmation to ride SacRT's fixed-route bus, light rail, Folsom Stage Line, SmARt Ride, Causeway Connection or SacRT GO paratransit services. When boarding a bus, show the operator either a printout or screenshot on a smartphone, or have ready to show a fare inspector when riding light rail.

Please note: SacRT is only providing transportation, not administering the COVID-19 vaccine itself.

For more information on vaccinations, eligibility, and appointments, visit Sacramento County's Coronavirus vaccine website. For those who wish to be notified when they become eligible for the vaccine and schedule their appointment, sign up on the state's website myturn.ca.gov.

For trip planning assistance visit sacrt.com or call 916-321-BUSS (2877). To request a ride on SmARt Ride on-demand microtransit service, download the free SacRT SmARt Ride app (App Store or Google Play) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877) for assistance. SmARt Ride service is available in eight different zones throughout Sacramento County. Learn more about SmARt Ride at sacrt.com/smartride.

SacRT GO Paratransit Services subscription customers can book a ride up to two days prior to their scheduled vaccination date. Call 916-321-BUSS (2877), select option 2 to discuss with a SacRT GO reservation specialist. Learn more about paratransit services at sacrtgo.com.

Bike and Ride Bus and Light Rail

May is National Bike Month and SacRT makes transit bicycle friendly by providing opportunities for bicyclists to combine biking with riding SacRT. SacRT has bike racks on buses, light rail trains and at stations.

Motorized bikes are not allowed in or on SacRT vehicles and bikes cannot be more than 80 inches long and much be less than 48 inches high.

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments is holding several May is Bike Month events to get more people to experience the physical and mental health benefits of biking while staying socially distanced.

Learn more by visiting MayisBikeMonth.com or call 916-321-9000.

Download the Alert SacRT App: Service Alerts for specific light rail lines now available

The Alert SacRT mobile reporting app now allows users to choose to receive light rail service alerts for each specific light rail line, Blue, Gold or Green. The light rail line alert options can be found by clicking the "More" button and then click on "Service Alerts" for the specific lines.

The free app is available for download from the App Store (iOS) and Google Play (Android). The app provides light rail service alerts and offers a quick and discreet method for reporting facilities and/or nuisance concerns directly to SacRT Police Services (RTPS) using a smartphone or tablet.

Users without a smart phone can send texts directly to RTPS at 916-318-3330.

Bus riders can continue to track their bus on the SacRT Bus Tracker at m.sacrt.com.

Visit sacrt.com/alertapp for details.



Elk Grove's transit services officially joins SacRT

SacRT and the City of Elk Grove formalized an annexation agreement that will officially bring the City of Elk Grove transit services into SacRT as a member entity effective Thursday, July 1, 2021.

SacRT has been operating e-tran and e-van services under a service contract since July 2019. Under the annexation agreement, SacRT will provide fixed-route local, commuter and paratransit services, and maintenance operations for e-tran and e-van.

As part of the agreement, SacRT is committed to a seamless transition with no impact to current riders. Service levels will be maintained or improved, and there are no short-term plans to make changes to the existing bus service or fares. e-tran and e-van employees who have been employed since the service contract in July 2019 will remain in their current position.

More information on the annexation will be available in the coming months. To learn more, visit sacrt.com/elkgrovetransit.

Next Stop News is produced monthly by the Sacramento Regional Transit District to keep passengers informed about current SacRT news and community events.

Email questions or comments about Next Stop News to nextstopnews@sacrt.com