

Pre-Paid Ticket and Pass Exchange

(December 1 – February 29)

Effective January 1, 2012, RT buses and light rail fare vending machines will not accept pre-paid tickets and passes with a December 31, 2011 expiration date.

During a three-month period, which began on December 1, customers may exchange Basic and Discount single fare tickets or daily passes for new fare media (September 30, 2014 expiration date). RT fares will remain the same.

RT will conduct even exchanges of fare media (December 31, 2011 expiration date) through February 29, 2012 at:

RT Customer Service and Sales Center
1225 R Street
(adjacent to the 13th Street light rail station)
Weekdays: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed weekends and most holidays

Making Progress on Smart Card System

RT and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments continue to make progress on developing a smart card system that will allow public transit riders in the region to pay for all bus and light rail trips with one form of fare media.

The smart card works like cash or a pass, automatically tracking the value of different fares by simply tapping the card on a special reader as you board. The smart card system will feature a plastic card that can store value and be reloaded.

RT recently began the installation of smart card system infrastructure at light rail stations, which includes new electrical wiring, poles, foundations and hardware for future fare vending machines. The initial focus will be on seven pilot light rail stations – Glenn, Iron Point, Sunrise, Butterfield, 29th Street, 13th Street and Meadowview – and will continue throughout the year.

“Like” RT’s Facebook Page

Do you like RT’s Facebook page? Join more than 1,400 riders who receive information on the latest RT news and events by searching “Sacramento Regional Transit District” at www.facebook.com. RT posts are always open for comment and we look forward to hearing from new fans this month.

RT Riders Provide Generous Donations

In December, RT operated the annual Holiday Bus, which offered passengers free rides to promote good will during the holiday season. In the spirit of giving, passengers had the opportunity to deposit a cash donation in the farebox, or donate non-perishable food items to benefit River City Food Bank (RCFB).

Thanks to the generosity of our passengers, RT collected \$1,670.48 for RCFB, a total that surpassed last year's donation by more than \$200! In addition, more than 1,000 pounds of food and essential personal toiletries were also collected and donated by RT employees and Holiday Bus riders. All donations will help RCFB clients throughout Sacramento County.

For more information about RCFB, visit www.rivercityfoodbank.org.

TransitAction Awards Open for Nominations

RT TransitAction Awards for transit excellence will be presented during the Sacramento Metro Chamber's 2012 State of RT Breakfast on Friday, March 23 at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento. These annual awards recognize efforts in support of transit and honor selected nominees that have made a significant and positive impact to public transit in the Sacramento region.

The TransitAction Awards offer an opportunity to highlight incredible contributions, and recipients will be recognized among elected officials, business leaders, community members and transit advocates in the Sacramento region.

RT is now calling for nominations. Nominations for the TransitAction Awards can be submitted for the following categories:

- Business of the Year
- Organization/Agency of the Year
- Transit Oriented Development of the Year
- Elected Official of the Year
- Individual/Transit Advocate of the Year

All nominations must be submitted no later than Friday, February 10, 2012. For more information about the TransitAction Awards and how to register for the State of RT Breakfast, visit www.sacrt.com/transitactionawards.

Congratulations to the "I Am the Dream and the Dream is Now" – 2011 Poetry Contest Winners

Rosa Parks is cool

and I know she didn't act like a fool.
she stood up on that bus even
though it caused some fuss.
Rosa did what she thought was right,
when she had to put up a fight.
she helped us get our rights

because she knew it was right.
I'm glad she did what she did
she is such an inspiration to us kids.

*By Anyla Simon
7th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*

She said what she had thought
she knew what she was trying to
define all she did was speak her mind
she put her words to the fullest
without being the rudest
now we thank RT systems today
that put poems of her out on display
we hope there's no delay.

*By Talia Simon
9th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*

Rosa Parks
Rosa Parks made every woman believe that they
can follow their dreams
when she was sad it made everybody else mad
because she was leader
which made everyone a believer
when she sat on the bus and the
driver made a fuss
people think it is a mystery
but she just made history

*By Naweh Dean
6th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*

Rosa Parks means courage
Taking a stand for woman and man
A hero to all colors and genders
Many years have passed since that brave day she would not give up her seat
for what she believed in
Rosa Parks a nations hero forever.

*By Brianay Andrews
6th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*

The Day had just begun I was up before the sun
Took a ride on the bus where I sat made a fuss
Never did I know that jail was where I would go
little did I know it was just the beginning though
for every man and woman

I didn't know we share the same victory
that is now RT history
Continuing a peaceful bus ride

*By Adezha Henry
5th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*

The sun's rays shimmer through the window
as I stare deeply at my country
from inside the bus.
I decide to take a look around the bus,
and I see all sort of
different people.
If I was in this same bus many years ago,
then I would have seen segregation,
but here today in this bus,
I see people from different cultures sitting together.
That is the dream many hoped for.
And, that dream is the dream come true.

*By Karen Chan
10th Grade, West Campus High School*

"A Reminiscent Future"
They occupied these seats,
We now occupy Wall Street.
They made up the minority,
We now make up the majority.
They wanted to see a change in Civil Rights,
We now want to see this change in our rights.
They lived by the words, "I have a dream,"
We now live to seek the "Change."
Their great leaders took a seat towards a stand,
We now must take a stand
and hope for a better seat.

*By Luciano Zuniga
10th Grade, Florin High School*

"My Dream Bus"
My dream bus,
Of whom I had a sight.
Everyone sits in front
No matter black or white.

*By Chanpreet Singh
10th Grade, Florin High School*

Rosa Parks Was a Woman Who Was Strong

Rosa Parks was a woman who stood strong
Her legend will live on and on
She made it possible for everyone to ride in the front of the bus
She did this not only for herself, but for all of us
She was a woman who stood strong
She knew the law was wrong
Now we all have the choice to sit anywhere
Thank you Rosa Parks
for your sacrifice and being there!

*By Angelica Barreras
8th Grade, Roberts Family Development Center*