**January 2022 Next Stop News**

* **Ride free to downtown restaurants during Dine Downtown**
* **SacRT is hiring, apply online**
* **Service on the Blue Line in the north area will be temporarily disrupted due to construction**
* **Time to RydeFreeRT back to school**

**Free Rides to COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Extended**

SacRT has extended free transit rides to scheduled COVID-19 vaccine appointments, including boosters, through Thursday, March 31, 2022.

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. SacRT requires anyone riding transit or visiting the SacRT Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street, to wear a mask. Visit sacrt.com/covid19 for more on our COVID-19 precautions.

**Head Back to School with RydeFreeRT**

With the holiday break over, get back to school the easy way with RydeFreeRT. Ride SacRT buses and light rail trains anytime, anywhere during regular service hours to see a movie, grab a bite to eat, shop at a mall or spend time hanging out with friends.

New RydeFreeRT cards for the 2021-2022 school year were distributed by schools. The new card is valid from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. RydeFreeRT ID cards are also available at local libraries and SacRT’s Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street. For more information, visit rydefreert.com. For trip planning assistance, visit [sacrt.com](http://www.sacrt.com) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**SacRT on the Move, Short-Range Transit Plan** **Next Steps**

SacRT on the Move is SacRT’s Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) that considers things such as span and frequency improvements, pandemic recovery, and ridership building initiatives over the next five years.

SacRT greatly appreciates all the community involvement and stakeholder coordination that has taken place throughout the fall season, and continues to seek feedback from the public to build a SRTP that best serves the region. Preparation of the draft SRTP document will continue through the winter months and will be shared with the SacRT Board of Directors and members of the public in February 2022.

There are additional opportunities to get involved and stay informed by visiting the project web page at [sacrt.com/SRTP](http://www.sacrt.com/SRTP). The public can also find FAQs based on comments collected during November’s virtual open house events and other relevant material . Remember to check back frequently, as SacRT will continue to update information as it becomes available.

For questions about the SRTP, please contact Sarah Poe, SacRT Planner at spoe@sacrt.com.

**Federal Mask Mandate Extended**

The federal mandate to wear a mask when waiting, boarding or traveling on public transportation has been extended through Friday, March 18, 2022. Whether vaccinated or not, passengers must wear a mask that covers both the nose and mouth. Masks are available for free at SacRT’s Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street (13th Street light rail station). To request a reasonable modification of this mandate, call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

As a reminder, riders should avoid public transit if sick, positive for COVID-19, or if they think or know they have been exposed to COVID-19. Visit [sacrt.com/covid19](http://www.sacrt.com/covid19) to learn more.

**SacRT is Hiring!**

Looking for a career in transit? In addition to bus drivers, SacRT has a variety of positions available such as engineer, mechanic, procurement analyst, transit ambassador, service worker and more. Check out all current SacRT job opportunities at sacrt.com/careers. All applications must be submitted via the online job portal.

When applying, be sure you provide good, detailed information and upload any required documents. If you don’t see the perfect job for you, don’t worry, you can sign up for job notifications and receive emails when new job opportunities become available. For additional information, contact SacRT’s Human Resources department at 916-556-0298.

**Rider Alert**

**Sunday/Holiday Schedule**

SacRT bus and light rail service will operate on a Sunday/holiday schedule in observance of New Year’s Day, Saturday, January 1, 2022, and on Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 17, 2022. Folsom Stage Line buses, SmaRT Ride, Rancho CordoVan, Elk Grove Transit and Causeway Connection do not operate on these days.

**January 2022 Service Changes**

Effective, Monday, January 3, 2022, Folsom Stage Line bus route 20 will have minor shifts to the afternoon trips. Visit [sacrt.com/schedules](http://www.sacrt.com/schedules/current/routes/RF20.htm) for details.

**Scheduled Blue Line Service Disruptions in January**

The North 12th Complete Streets project construction is planned for Tuesday, January 18 through Friday, January 21, 2022, and again on Monday, January 24 through Friday, January 28, 2022. As a result, light rail service will be temporarily disrupted on the Blue Line (north area only) starting from 7 p.m. through the end of the service day during construction. Special SacRT shuttle buses will transport passengers between the Cathedral Square (10th & K and 11th & K) and Marconi/Arcade light rail stations during the disruption. Visit [sacrt.com/alerts](http://www.sacrt.com/alerts/) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877) for details.

**Ride Free on the SacRT Holiday Bus**

SacRT wishes everyone a Happy New Year and reminds you that you can still ride the SacRT Holiday Bus for free on Saturday, January 1, 2022 (bus route 1) and Sunday, January 2, 2022 (bus routes 86 and 87). The ride is free; however, passengers have the opportunity to deposit a cash donation in the farebox or donate online to Civic Thread, formerly known as WalkSacramento.

**Watt/I-80 Elevator Repairs Scheduled for Completion this Month**

The installation of the new elevators at the Watt/I-80 light rail station will continue throughout the month of January. Weather has impacted the progress to some extent; however, contractors expect to have the work completed by the end of the month. During installation, contractors will need to close the east side of the station elevator and stairs. During construction, passengers will need to board a special shuttle bus to access the Watt/I-80 light rail station from Watt Avenue. Check the [sacrt.com/alerts](http://www.sacrt.com/alerts) page for updates.

**SacRT Offers Free Rides on Fridays During Dine Downtown**
Kick off the new year enjoying a great meal at one of the many downtown restaurants –

and take SacRT to get there! From Friday, January 7 through Monday, January 17, 2022, Central City restaurants will serve Dine Downtown prix fixe menus for dinner, lunch and/or brunch at three convenient price points - $25, $35 or $45.

SacRT is offering free rides on bus, light rail and SmaRT Ride on Friday, January 7, 2022 and Friday, January 14, 2022. Simply print or screen shotthe free ride flyer to show a bus operator or light rail fare inspector. Visit [sacrt.com/dinedowntown](https://www.sacrt.com/apps/sacrt-offers-free-rides-on-fridays-for-dine-downtown/) to get the free ride flyer.

Local foodies and families can support Sacramento’s top restaurants by dining in, ordering take-out, or even getting food delivered! To check out theee menus and plan your Dine Downtown experience, visit [GoDowntownSac.com/DineDowntown](http://www.godowntownsac.com/dinedowntown). To plan your trip on SacRT, visit sacrt.com/services or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**2022 Tet Festival to be Held at Florin Station**

Asian Resources Inc., and Vietnamese American Community of Sacramento, in partnership with SacRT, will host the 2022 Sacramento Tet Festival. The Tet Festival is a cultural tradition on the Lunar New Year where families go shopping for new clothes, flowers, rice cake, red envelopes and everything to prepare for the New Year. To provide for more social distancing, this year’s Tet Festival will be held at SacRT’s Florin light rail station park-and-ride lot on Saturday, January 29, 2022 and Sunday, January 30, 2022.

Take SacRT for free to the festival, just steps from the station platform, by downloading the Tet Festival free ride flyer from [sacrt.com/freerideflyers](http://www.sacrt.com/freerideflyers).

This free community event promotes the Vietnamese culture and commerce to build a stronger, diverse community focused on Hope, Recovery and Unity. The event program will include entertainment, carnival rides, traditional cuisine, and much more over the two-day weekend. For more information about the festival, visit [asianresources.org](http://www.asianresources.org) or [vacos.org](http://www.vacos.org). For trip planning assistance, visit [sacrt.com](http://www.sacrt.com) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).