

# NEXT STOP NEWS

## INSIDE:



**Ride SacRT to Fourth of July festivities around the Sacramento region for free**



**Elk Grove transit services officially transitions to SacRT on July 1**



**Contactless fare payment option now available onboard Green Line trains when boarding**



**SacRT partners to bring new high-speed charging hub at the Power Inn Station**

## JULY 2021



## Elk Grove Transit Services Now Part of the SacRT District

As of Thursday, July 1, 2021, Elk Grove Transit Services are part of the SacRT district. Under the annexation agreement, SacRT will provide fixed-route local, commuter and paratransit services, and maintenance operations for Elk Grove. SacRT had been operating e-tran and e-van services under a service contract since July 2019. As part of the agreement, service levels will be maintained or improved and there are no short-term plans to make changes to the existing bus service, or fares.

There is new contact information and a new web page for Elk Grove riders. Elk Grove transit riders that need transit information should make note that the new Customer Service phone number is 916-321-BUSS (2877) and the new web page is [sacrt.com/elkgrovetransit](http://sacrt.com/elkgrovetransit).

## SmaRT Ride is Expanding July 1

To better serve residents in south Sacramento and Elk Grove, SacRT's SmaRT Ride on-demand microtransit service is expanding on Thursday, July 1, 2021.

### Elk Grove

The new Elk Grove zone coincides with Elk Grove's transit services joining the SacRT district on Thursday, July 1, 2021. The Elk Grove zone will operate primarily between Waterman Road and Grant Line Road, with additional coverage in the Vineyard area, north of Calvine Road, as far north as Florin Road, from Elk Grove-Florin Road to Bradshaw Road, and as far north as Gerber Road, between Bradshaw Road and Excelsior Road.

### Florin-Gerber (formerly Gerber-Calvine)

The Florin-Gerber (formerly Gerber-Calvine) zone is expanding to serve more of south-east Sacramento, as far north as Fruitridge Road. The new zone will now operate as far east as Elk Grove-Florin Road, from Florin Road to Calvine Road, including the Safeway on Calvine Road and the Walmart on Gerber Road, as well as the Florin Road Post Office. It will also serve the Lemon Hill and Glen Elder areas from 65th Street to Florin Perkins Road, between Fruitridge Road and Florin Road. It will share a border with the new Elk Grove zone.

SmaRT Ride is similar to other ride-share services where customers can use the SacRT SmaRT Ride app to request a ride that will pick up and drop off passengers within the service boundaries. Visit [sacrt.com/smartride](http://sacrt.com/smartride) to find SmaRT Ride zone maps and learn more about the on-demand service.

## Contactless Fare Payment Available Onboard Green Line

SacRT has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Visa, Littlepay, and SC Soft to add a contactless method for payment onboard light rail trains, which will help improve the customer experience. The innovative touch-free fare payment technology will allow riders to tap a contactless credit, debit, prepaid card, or contactless-enabled mobile or wearable device (e.g., smartwatch) to pay fare when boarding light rail trains.

As part of a phased rollout, contactless fare payment will initially be available on the Green Line. Throughout the rest of the summer, SacRT will be installing the contactless fare payment readers aboard the full light rail fleet. During installation periods, the payment readers will display a "testing in progress" screen, which means they are not yet activated for use.

SacRT is the first transit agency in California to introduce a contactless payment solution on a light rail train system as part of the California Integrated Travel Project (Cal-ITP), a Caltrans initiative to facilitate easy and accessible travel planning and payments.

Visit [sacrt.com/contactless](http://sacrt.com/contactless) to learn more.

## Masks Still Required on Transit



On June 15, 2021, SacRT increased to full seated capacity on all buses and trains. Local health officials approved a safe increase of passengers per vehicle.

- Seated capacity means all seats will be available, and signs blocking off seats will be removed.
- By Federal Law, masks are still required on public transit through September 13, 2021.
- You should avoid public transit if you are sick, positive for COVID-19, or if you think or know you have been exposed to COVID-19.

Visit [sacrt.com/covid19](http://sacrt.com/covid19) to learn more.

## New Colorful LED Art Installation at the 29th Street Station

SacRT partnered with the Midtown Association to place a new LED art installation at the 29th Street light rail station. The lighting enhancement project is designed to attract and encourage ridership while also creating a welcoming connection and pedestrian gateway between Midtown and the nearby Alhambra corridor.

The lighting project features custom-fabricated LED light panels created by local artist Chris Biddle from Light23 and installed by Choice Electrical Inc. The colorful panels resemble street pole banners popular throughout Midtown. Make a trip to the 29th Street light rail station after dusk to see the new art installation.



## Celebrate Your Fourth of July Via SacRT for FREE!

SacRT is offering FREE rides system-wide to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday on Sunday, July 4, 2021. Free rides are available on bus, light rail, SacRT GO paratransit services, and Elk Grove transit services.

The system-wide free ride day is also a way to celebrate Elk Grove Transit Services becoming part of the SacRT district on Thursday, July 1, 2021. SacRT is operating a Sunday/Holiday schedule on the Fourth of July, which means some services do not operate on Sundays. Visit [sacrt.com/services](http://sacrt.com/services) for transit options and schedules.

## SacRT Gets Ready to Show Off Our Short-Range Transit Plan

SacRT On the Move is SacRT's Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP), which makes recommendations looking forward over the next five years.

In September 2019, SacRT reimagined the entire bus network with the SacRT Forward project. Every bus route had changes, and many shifted to more frequent service seven days a week. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic upended transit service and changed travel patterns everywhere. With the new bus network implementation and impacts from COVID-19, SacRT will examine ridership data to see what is working and what is not.

SacRT will use the data to have conversations with riders, stakeholders and the community to establish how to move forward with future service. Starting this month, SacRT will share some of the key components of the draft plan, including but not limited to a five-year service outlook, which SacRT will continuously develop throughout the planning and outreach process. For that reason, public review and feedback on system recovery is highly encouraged and welcomed.

SacRT plans to share the draft SRTP with the SacRT Board of Directors in August 2021 and will seek additional public comment in September 2021. SacRT staff will review and consider all public comments received with a goal of having the final SRTP ready to implement by December 2021. We encourage our riders, stakeholders, and the entire community to become involved in helping SacRT make this plan meaningful to the Sacramento region. More information about the SRTP is available at [sacrt.com](http://sacrt.com).



## Free Rides to COVID-19 Vaccines Continue

SacRT continues to offer free transit rides to scheduled COVID-19 vaccine appointments through Saturday, July 31, 2021. The free rides include all vaccination sites in Sacramento County within SacRT's service area, including hospitals, pharmacies, and other immunization locations.

To ride free, you 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 in your appointment confirmation to ride SacRT's fixed-route bus, light rail, Folsom Stage Line, SmaRT Ride or SacRT GO Paratransit Services. Please note that free rides are not available for SacRT's contracted services (Rancho CordoVan services).

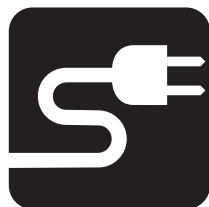
When boarding a bus, show the operator either a printout or screenshot on a smartphone, or have ready to show a fare inspector when riding light rail. Learn more at [sacrt.com/vaccines](http://sacrt.com/vaccines).

## Caltrans Seeks Feedback On Active Transportation Plan

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is seeking input from the public for the Caltrans District 3 Active Transportation (CAT) Plan. Through the CAT Plan survey, the public can inform Caltrans of missing or desired bicycle or pedestrian facilities (sidewalks, bicycle lanes, crosswalks, etc.) on, across or near the state highway system.

The five-minute map-based survey allows you to pinpoint locations where it is challenging to walk or bike and provide a short description of the need. The goal of the CAT Plan is to identify and prioritize all bicycle and pedestrian safety needs across all 11 District 3 counties, which includes Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Placer, El Dorado, Glenn, Colusa, Nevada, Butte and Sierra counties.

The report will guide future Caltrans active transportation planning and funding to align State bicycle and pedestrian safety efforts with local priorities. Please make sure your voice is heard by completing the survey by Friday, July 16. Take the survey at [catplan.org/district-3](http://catplan.org/district-3).



## New High-Speed Charging Hub Coming to the Power Inn Station

SacRT is partnering with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and GiddyUp EV, Inc., to build a new high-speed electric vehicle charging hub at the Power Inn light rail station. The new charging hub is anticipated to go live in October 2021 and be one of the largest charging hubs in the state when built out.

This public-private partnership will deliver a state-of-the-art charging solution for Sacramento's growing electric vehicle market, meet the region and state's sustainability goals, and provide a revenue sharing model for SacRT.

The new charging station hub will be fully networked and integrated, and will only impact 55 of the 299 parking spaces located in the light rail station park-and-ride lot. With power supplied by SMUD, this high-speed and integrated charging network would advance electric vehicle adoption in the region, help meet environmental and economic goals of the State, while providing added services to various mobility users. Learn more about the project at [sacrt.com/charginghub](http://sacrt.com/charginghub).

## Rider Alert

### Fourth of July Holiday Observed Monday, July 5, 2021

Due to the Fourth of July holiday falling on a Sunday this year, SacRT will observe the holiday on Monday, July 5, 2021. SacRT will operate on a Sunday/Holiday schedule on Monday, July 5. SmaRT Ride, Folsom Stage Line, Causeway Connection and Rancho CordoVan will not operate. Elk Grove transit services will only operate local Elk Grove fixed route service. Elk Grove Commuter and SacRT e-van service will not operate. The Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street will be closed. The customer service phone lines will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both Sunday, July 4 and Monday, July 5.

### Ride Free to Elk Grove's Salute to the Red, White and Blue July 4

On Sunday, July 4, 2021, SacRT will offer free bus rides for Elk Grove's Salutes the Red, White & Blue at Elk Grove Park. The Red and Blue lines will begin service at 4:30 p.m. and provide trips to the park every 15 minutes through 8 p.m. Bus service leaving the park will begin at the end of the fireworks show. The final bus departure will be at 10:30 p.m. Pick-up and drop-offs inside the park will be in front of Pavilion.

For ADA certified passengers, both routes may deviate or travel off route up to 3/4 mile to pick up and drop off passengers. Reservations must be made at least one day prior to travel by calling 916-321-BUSS (2877), press option 4 for Elk Grove. For questions regarding the service, please call SacRT Customer Service at 916-321-BUSS (2877).

### Ride Free to the Folsom Pro Rodeo July 2 - 4

SacRT is offering FREE shuttle rides from the Historic Folsom and Glenn/Robert G. Holderness light rail stations to Rodeo Park in Folsom on Friday, July 2 through Sunday, July 4, 2021. To ride light rail for free on Friday, July 2 and Saturday, July 3, 2021, simply show your valid Folsom Pro Rodeo admission ticket to the fare inspector.

The free shuttle will operate every 30 minutes between light rail stations and Rodeo Park all three days. The first shuttle will depart at 4 p.m. from the Historic Folsom Station arriving Rodeo Park at 4:15 p.m. The last shuttle will depart Rodeo Park at 10:15 p.m. and arrive at the Historic Folsom Station at 10:20 p.m. The last light rail train departs the station at 11:30 p.m. For route and schedule information, visit [sacrt.com](http://sacrt.com). To learn more about the Folsom Pro Rodeo, visit [folsomprorodeo.com](http://folsomprorodeo.com).

*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](mailto:nextstopnews@sacrt.com)*