

# NEXT STOP NEWS

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**OCTOBER 2020**

## SacRT Installs New Smart Fare Vending Machines

SacRT is continuing to install new smart fare vending machines. Crews are currently installing new machines in the downtown area and will then work outbound on the Blue Line. Expected completion for installation on the Blue Line is this month. Installation will start on the Gold Line in November.

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

As with all SacRT equipment, the fare vending machines will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis. To learn more about the smart features and more, visit [sacrt.com/fvm](http://sacrt.com/fvm).

*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)*

 916-321-BUSS (2877)  [sacrt.com](http://sacrt.com)



## RydeFreeRT Extended Through September 2021

Kick off the school year with RydeFreeRT! The RydeFreeRT program has been extended through September 30, 2021. Youth in grades TK through 12 can continue to ride the entire SacRT transit network, including buses, light rail and Smart Ride microtransit service for FREE!

Due to distribution limitations resulting from COVID-19, students won't need a RydeFreeRT sticker to ride, simply show a student ID or previous RydeFreeRT card. Students and youth who need a replacement card, don't have a student ID, or who don't have an ID can visit SacRT's Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street (adjacent to the 13th Street Station) to get a card. Once schools re-open, stickers and passes will also be available at most school and public library locations.

RydeFreeRT is available any day, any time, during regular SacRT service hours. Learn more about the fare-free transit for students and youth program at [rydefreert.com](http://rydefreert.com).

## System-Wide Free Rides on California Clean Air Day

On Wednesday, October 7, 2020, SacRT is offering free rides system-wide in recognition of California Clean Air Day. Single occupancy vehicles are the single biggest source of air

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pollution in California. On Clean Air Day, give public transportation a try to clear the air. As a reminder, masks or face coverings are required to ride.

California Clean Air Day is a non-profit, statewide program built on the idea that shared experiences unite people to action to improve our community health. Over 650,000 people participated in 2019, and it is anticipated that many more will participate in 2020. Visit [CleanAirDay.org](http://CleanAirDay.org) to take the pledge to try transit and more information on this statewide day of action.

## Rider Alert

### Causeway Connection Service Improvements

On September 28, 2020, service was added to the Causeway Connection (Route 138) zero emission bus service between Davis and Sacramento. The updated schedule now operates hourly Monday through Friday with 30 trips between the Silo Terminal in Davis and the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento.

All trips will continue to serve all three Davis stops: Mondavi Center, Genome Biological Science Facility, and the Silo. At this time, no stops will be added in downtown Sacramento or at Mace Boulevard; however, those stops are under consideration for future months.

For more information, visit [causewayconnection.com](http://causewayconnection.com). To submit feedback or questions, please email [feedback@causewayconnection.com](mailto:feedback@causewayconnection.com) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

## SacRT Seeking Comments on Title VI Fare Equity Analysis

SacRT is seeking comments on a transit fare analysis, prepared in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The report is available for review at [sacrt.com](http://sacrt.com). It includes an analysis of a free ride program for affiliates of the University of California, Davis for use on the Causeway Connection intercity express bus route.

**Please address comments to:**

SacRT Planning Dept.  
Attn: James Drake  
P.O. Box 2110  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2110

**Phone:**

**Comments:** 916-557-4545

**Language Assistance:** 916-557-4545

**Email:**

[customeradvocacy@sacrt.com](mailto:customeradvocacy@sacrt.com)

All comments will be provided to the SacRT Board of Directors prior to approval of the final analysis. The deadline for written comments to be included in the board packet is October 19, 2020. All comments will be provided to the SacRT Board of Directors at their regular meeting scheduled for October 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Members of the public may also provide written comments to the SacRT Board of Directors meeting via SacRT's board clerk on the day of the meeting; however, comments submitted this way are limited to 250 words and will not be printed in the agenda item. Please visit [sacrt.com](http://sacrt.com) for more information on board meeting accommodations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## SacRT to Offer System-Wide Free Ride Days to Drive the Vote

SacRT has teamed up with Sacramento County and the Sacramento Kings to drive community members to Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations across the Sacramento region, including Golden 1 Center to help Drive the Vote.

Mark your calendars, SacRT is offering free rides system-wide on all bus, light rail, SmaRT Ride and SacRT GO services to honor the first day of early voting on Saturday, October 24, and a second system-wide free ride day in celebration of Election Day on Tuesday, November 3. No flyer or exemption code necessary to ride free.

In addition, SacRT is offering free rides on SmaRT Ride microtransit shuttles in all nine service zones, with a free ride flyer, from Monday, October 26 through Monday, November 2 with the exception of the weekend (no Saturday or Sunday SmaRT Ride service). Learn more about SmaRT Ride at [sacrt.com/smartride](http://sacrt.com/smartride).

To ride SmaRT Ride free, simply print or take a screenshot of the side of the SmaRT Ride free ride flyer with the QR code. You only need one flyer per group of riders traveling together. Have it ready to show the bus operator when boarding the shuttle. As a reminder, riders and SacRT employees are required to wear a mask or face covering.

To find Vote Center and Ballot Box locations in each SmaRT Ride Zone and to print or screenshot the free ride flyer, visit [sacrt.com/drivethevote](http://sacrt.com/drivethevote).

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The Sacramento Kings partnered with over 35 professional sports franchises for Rally the Vote to help encourage fans to register to vote and participate in elections. Golden 1 Center will be open as an early voting location from Saturday, October 24 through Election Day on Tuesday, November 3. For more information, visit [rallythevote.org](http://rallythevote.org).

Sacramento County is providing 84 Vote Centers for the Presidential General Election and 18 locations will open on Saturday, October 24 and will stay open for 11 days. All other Vote Centers will open on Saturday, October 31 and stay open through Tuesday, November 3. Visit [elections.sacounty.net](http://elections.sacounty.net) to learn more about voter registration and locations.

## Wearing is Caring – Masks Required When Riding Transit

To comply with the California Department of Public Health's guidance on requiring face coverings or masks in public, SacRT requires that a mask or face covering be worn while waiting at bus stops, light rail stations and when riding any SacRT vehicle. SacRT provides free masks at the Customer Service and Sales Center and onboard buses and light rail trains. The masks were donated to SacRT by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Federal Transportation Administration and other regional partners.

If a customer refuses to wear a mask or face covering, they will not be permitted to board and will be denied service. Children age two and under, and any person with a medical,

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mental health, or developmental disability that prevents them from wearing a face covering are exempt. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a template for simple cloth face coverings that can be made at home. Learn more at [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov). To read about the state mandate, visit [covid19.ca.gov](http://covid19.ca.gov).

## Helping the Sacramento Region Stay on Track

SacRT's number one priority is the health, safety and well-being of our riders and the community. Our public role is about more than just getting people from place to place, we also have a social responsibility to the communities in which we serve. This year, more than any other, is defining a new normal for all of us.

As we continue to face unprecedented times in our lives with the impacts of COVID-19, wild-fires and other stressful events, the mental and emotional toll can be overwhelming, especially as we approach the holiday season. The first step is recognizing the signs – If you or someone you know is struggling or feeling a sense of hopelessness, please know help is available 24/7/365 days a year.

SacRT encourages you to contact the Crisis Respite Center for immediate and confidential assistance at 916-RESPITE (916-737-7483), Well Space Health at 916-368-3111 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (8255). To learn how to recognize the signs, visit [suicideispreventable.org](http://suicideispreventable.org).