

NEXT STOP NEWS



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APRIL 2023

50th Anniversary Events

To honor our history and, most importantly, to say “thank you” to everyone we serve, we’ll be holding pop-up events at light rail stations and transit center throughout the month of April 2023. We’ll also have some commemorative items to hand out and a chance to enter to win prizes at each event.

We plan to continue celebrating our 50th anniversary throughout the year and plan to hold larger community events in the coming months to showcase our new low-floor light rail trains.

50th Anniversary Pop-Up Events in April:

- Wednesday, April 5: 16th Street Station 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, April 6: Arden Fair Transit Center – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Friday, April 7: Watt/I-80 Station 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Monday, April 10: Mather Field/Mills Station – 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, April 13: University/65th Street Station – 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Saturday, April 15: Historic Folsom Station (Farmers Market) 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 18: Arden/Del Paso Station – 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 19: Cosumnes River College Station – 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Monday, April 24: 13th Street Station 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



SacRT Celebrates 50 Years: Our Golden Anniversary

April 1, 2023, marks SacRT’s 50th anniversary of operation, and we’re celebrating this important milestone by looking back at our history and celebrating what is still to come. SacRT has played an integral role in generations of Sacramentans and has been woven into the fabric of daily life across the Sacramento region.

“For 50 years, our dedicated, hard-working employees have kept this region moving by providing the most equitable, accessible and innovative public transportation options,” said SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li. “This is a milestone worth celebrating, and we look forward to celebrating with our employees, customers and community.”

“It is my pleasure to congratulate the entire SacRT Team and Sacramento County community as we celebrate our 50th anniversary,” said SacRT Board Chair and Sacramento County Supervisor Patrick Kennedy. “Since its founding in 1973, SacRT has become highly recognized for its innovative approaches in delivering clean, safe and convenient transit options for our customers. SacRT has seen tremendous growth, especially in the past few years, and occasions like this 50th milestone are a wonderful reminder that great things are happening.”

This half-century landmark not only provides a moment for reflection about where SacRT has been, it’s also a time to focus on where SacRT is headed into the future to improve transit access and serve more riders.

Rider Alert

April 2023 Service Adjustments: Bus Routes 72 and 86

Effective Sunday, April 2, 2023, SacRT will implement minor service adjustments on bus routes 72 and 86.

Route 72: Outbound to Mather Field/Mills (Monday – Friday):

To better serve demand along Kiefer Boulevard, the trip that started at Branch Center Drive at 3:37 p.m. will now start at Watt/Manlove at 3:28 p.m.

Route 86: Inbound to J & 11th (Monday – Friday):

The trips departing Marconi/Arcade Station before 8 p.m. will depart five minutes later than currently scheduled to improve connections. All times shift accordingly. See new timetable for more details.

New timetables are available at sacrt.com/aprilservice.

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

Go Green! Ride Free on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22

SacRT is offering systemwide free rides in celebration of Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Free rides are available to travel on all buses, light rail and SacRT GO paratransit services shuttles during regular service hours. No flyer is needed to ride free.

SacRT light rail vehicles minimize air pollution, as they are 100% powered by electricity and most buses use compressed natural gas (CNG), which produces fewer pollutants, other vehicles are 100% zero-emission electric battery powered vehicles. On Earth Day, help clear the air by trying an alternative form of transportation. Leave the car at home and try SacRT for free. Learn more at sacrt.com/earthday.



Help Spring Clean at the American River Parkway

The American River Parkway Foundation's Spring Clean-Up is being held on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 9 a.m. This free community event is the second-largest annual clean-up, and helps remove thousands of pounds of trash from the Parkway. With nine locations to choose from along the American River Parkway from Discovery Park to Nimbus Dam, you can help conserve your favorite part of the Parkway or explore a new area. This is an opportunity for the entire family to make an impact on the community together and a great way to earn community service hours. Learn more about the clean up opportunities at arpf.org

Share Your SacRT Story

We would love to hear your story about your first-time riding SacRT or a special memory you have. Visit our website to share your story online.

Learn more about the 50th anniversary and SacRT's history through the decades by visiting sacrt.com/50years.

Help improve bus stops along Stockton Blvd, take the survey!

SacRT is asking for feedback on bus stops along Stockton Boulevard for the Stockton Boulevard Bus Stop Implementation Plan. Stockton Boulevard is SacRT's highest ridership corridor, and we are identifying projects at existing bus stops along Stockton Boulevard from Alhambra Boulevard to Elsie Avenue to improve safety, accessibility, and ridership along Stockton Boulevard.

Community engagement will help identify specific bus stops needs and guide where future funding will be implemented. Community input was previously received from the Spotlight on Stockton Boulevard event in October 2022. The feedback received from this survey will be combined with the input received from the Spotlight on Stockton Boulevard to inform project results.

Take the online survey through Thursday, April 13, 2023, at sacrt.com/stocktonblvd.

Rider Alert

Upcoming Weekend Light Rail Service Disruptions

Several light rail service disruptions are planned for multiple weekends in April. During construction, riders will be able to travel between impacted light rail stations through a bus bridge (shuttle buses).

Saturday, April 1 and Sunday

April 2, 2023: Gold Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street and 29th Street stations. Blue Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street to Fruitridge stations

Saturday, April 15 and Sunday,

April 16, 2023: Blue Line: Bus bridge between Alkali Flat/La Valentina and Watt/I-80 stations

Saturday, April 22 and Sunday,

April 23, 2023: Gold Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street to 29th Street stations. Blue Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street to City College stations

Saturday, April 29 and Sunday,

April 30, 2023: Gold Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street and Sacramento Valley Station. Blue Line: Bus bridge between 13th Street and Cathedral Square (10th & K and 11 & K) stations

The station construction schedule could change due to inclement weather. Check sacrt.com/stationclosure or call Customer Service at 916-321-BUSS (2877) for updates.

50th Anniversary Bus and Light Rail Train

We are rolling out a special 50th anniversary edition bus and light rail train this month. Step on board for an immersive experience, as both the bus and train feature decals dotted with QR codes that virtually connect riders to stories and videos about our history and achievements. A special thank you to Siemens for sponsoring our train wrap and Gillig for sponsoring our bus wrap.



Free Ride Transit Tuesdays

To kick-off the celebration, we are offering Free Ride Transit Tuesdays on fixed-route bus and light rail every Tuesday during the month of April 2023, on April 4, April 11, April 18 and April 25. No flyer needed to ride, just hop on board.

SacRT Timeline Milestones

~ 50 Years of Service ~

1972

City of Sacramento recommends expanding city transit authority into a 'regional' system, state authorizing legislation passed.

1973

April 1 - Sacramento Regional Transit District begins operation, taking over for the City owned Sacramento Transit Authority.

25 cents Love-a-Fare promotional campaign.



1974

Ridership more than doubles to 45,000 daily. Service expanded to connect to the cities of Roseville and Folsom.

1975

Fares reduced for youth, seniors and disabled.



1977

SacRT opens new office building at 29th & N Streets (1400 29th Street).

1980

SacRT gets an all air-conditioned bus fleet.

1981

Sacramento Transit Development Agency is created to build light rail system.



1982

Buses with wheelchair lifts introduced.

1983

Construction begins on light rail.

1985

New Light Rail Division opens.

1987

Light rail service begins on the 18.3-mile starter line.



1988

Voters pass Measure A Sales Tax for roads and transit (1/6 cent for transit).

1989

Major service expansion results in significant ridership increases.

1991

SacRT procures 10 new light rail cars (36 total).



1992

Construction of Compressed Natural Gas fueling facility begins.

1993

SacRT establishes a Police Services department, and SacRT receives APTA's "Best Mid-Size System of the Year" award.



1998

SacRT celebrates its 25th anniversary and light rail extension to Mather Field/Mills Station in completed.

1999

Groundbreaking for South Corridor Project (first phase of Blue Line).



2000

Crews lay first section of South Corridor Project track and Neighborhood Ride shuttle begins service.

2002

SacRT receives the first 24 (of 40) new light rail vehicles for Blue Line opening.



2004

SacRT completes conversion to all CNG buses.

2003

The 6.3-mile South Sacramento Blue Line Corridor Project is completed.

2005

Light rail extension to the city of Folsom opens and representatives from the Cities of Elk Grove, Citrus Heights and Folsom join the SacRT Board, and the Mobility Advisory Council (MAC) was formed as a voluntary advisory body.

2006

The Sacramento Valley Station opens and the new SacRT Customer Service and Sales Center opens.

2007

SacRT celebrates the 20th Anniversary of light rail.



2008

SacRT marks its 35th Anniversary and experiences record ridership.

2009

SacRT breaks ground on the construction of the Green Line to the River District and Rancho CordoVan service began.

2011

Electronic Message Signs at key light rail stations go live.



2012

The Green Line to the River District opens and SacRT partners with the City of Citrus Heights to offer "City Ride" dial-a-ride shuttle service.

2013

A second CNG fueling facility opens at McClellan Business Park and construction begins on the Blue Line to Cosumnes River College.

2015

The Blue Line to Cosumnes River College light rail extension opens.



2017

SacRT reduces student fare, launches "rolling art" wrapped light rail trains and introduced the ZipPass mobile fare app.



2019

Citrus Heights transit services annexes into SacRT, SacRT redesigns bus network with SacRT Forward, launches a fare-free transit program for youth, RydeFreeRT.

2020

SacRT launches express bus service to the airport, begins Causeway Connection service to the city of Davis, SacRT brought back paratransit services in-house, and SacRT offers Wi-Fi buses for riders to access free high-speed internet at the start of the pandemic.



2021

SacRT receives APTA's "Outstanding Public Transit System of the Year" award, Elk Grove transit services annexed into SacRT, and SacRT launches contactless fare payment on light rail trains, the first in the state.



2022

SacRT celebrates first student housing Transit Oriented Development and launches Bus Stop Improvement project.

2023

SacRT celebrates 50 years of service and the delivery of the first of up to 76 modern low-floor light rail vehicles.