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**May 2023**

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**SacRT 50 Year Anniversary Celebration Continues**

Thank you for helping make SacRT’s 50th anniversary celebration kickoff a success during April 2023! We hope that you enjoyed the festivities throughout the month. It was great seeing riders at our pop-up events at light rail stations, transit centers, and bus stops throughout the region. We chatted with riders and handed out snacks and limited-edition SacRT swag.

Also, a big thank you to everyone who went online to share their SacRT stories. We heard lots of great memories and experiences on transit. We will be publicly sharing some of these stories throughout 2023. If you’d like to share your SacRT story, you still can! Visit sacrt.com/50years.

Did you catch a free ride on our Transit Tuesdays in April? We enjoyed sharing the offer of FREE transit with our riders as part of the celebration.

We also debuted the 50th anniversary special wrapped bus and train last month. These vehicles will remain out on the system for the rest of year! If you have not had a chance, we hope you will be able to catch a ride for an immersive experience. Both the bus and train feature decals dotted with QR codes that virtually connect riders to stories and videos about our history and achievements.

We look forward to celebrating with you for the rest of 2023 and beyond!

**Ride SacRT to Local Events this May!**

SacRT has partnered with many local organizations to offer free rides on transit to events across our region! All you have to do is visit sacrt.com/freerideflyer, and print or screenshot the free ride flyer for the event you are attending. Only one flyer is needed per group. Present the flyer to the bus operator upon boarding, or the light rail fare inspection staff upon request.

These flyers are only valid on specific dates, times and on certain SacRT services. Please review prior to riding. To plan your trip on SacRT prior to riding, visit sacrt.com/planyourtrip or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

Upcoming May Events:

* AAPI Night Market – Friday, May 19, 2023
* Yarmarka Multicultural Festival – Saturday, May 20, 2023
* Historic Folsom Arts & Crafts Fair – Saturday, May 20, 2023
* Game of Throws Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser – Saturday, May 27, 2023
* Folsom to Folsom Ride - Saturday, May 27, 2023
* International Kids Festival – Saturday, May 27, 2023
* SacLovia, Bike on the Boulevard – Sunday, May 28, 2023

**Rider Alert: Weekend Light Rail Service Disruptions**

Light rail service disruptions are planned in May. This work will likely occur from the start of service until the end of service on both Saturday and Sunday. Normal light rail service will resume by the start of service on Monday.

During construction, riders will be able to travel between impacted light rail stations through a bus bridge (shuttle buses). Please plan ahead before you travel and give yourself some extra time to get to your destination.

Most of these service disruptions are due to construction to modify light rail stations to meet the height requirements of the new low-floor trains. Additionally, some routine maintenance work is also required on weekends to keep the light rail system operational.

More information on the affected stations and bus bridges can be found online at sacrt.com/stationclosure.

Thank you for your patience as we work to improve the system for the future!

**New Light Rail Train Testing Underway**

SacRT is beginning to receive delivery of new low-floor light rail trains from Siemens Mobility as part of the Light Rail Modernization project. SacRT purchased 28 new low-floor light rail vehicles and has the option for the purchase of up to 76 vehicles. The first new low-floor train delivery began in March 2023 and more trains are being delivered each month. Each train needs to go through a rigorous testing process before the public can ride them. Here is an explanation of the phased testing process:

**Phase 1:** Static Testing: This part of the testing involves a series of evaluations that check the function of every system on board, for example the computer programming; signal, lighting; electrical connections; communication (station announcements, and rider announcements); and even air conditioning and heat.

**Phase 2:** Dynamic Testing: This part of the testing takes place out on the track, where staff tests the braking and propulsion. Different weights will be added to the train car to test braking with different loads to ensure the train is working properly depending on the number of riders onboard.

**Phase 3:** Burn-in Testing: This part of the testing involves putting the new low-floor vehicles through 1,000 miles of on-the-track operation. This gives staff an opportunity to address any issues before the vehicle is placed in service.

The reason for all these tests is to make sure the new low-floor light rail vehicles are safe and reliable before passengers get on board. The first low-floor vehicles are scheduled to be ready for revenue service in summer 2024. Learn more about the project at sacrt.com/modernization.

**Blue Line North Bus Bridges for Train Testing in May**

Beginning in May, bus bridges (special shuttle buses) will be in place on the north area Blue Line between Watt/I-80 and Swanston stations while we test the new low-floor trains on the tracks between those stations. The new trains are undergoing dynamic testing, which requires the trains to be on the track during revenue service to test multiple mechanical systems. Bus bridge service will be in place Monday through Friday beginning at 11 p.m. through the end of service. The train testing and bus bridge is expected to last until October 2023.

More information on the testing process and bus bridge locations will be available at sacrt.com/modernization.

**SacRT to Operate Sunday/Holiday Schedule for Memorial Day**

On Monday, May 29, 2023, in honor of Memorial Day, SacRT bus and light rail will operate on Sunday/Holiday schedule. SacRT GO will operate service. Please visit sacrt.com/schedules to view the Sunday/Holiday schedule for your route or call 916-321-BUSS (2877) for assistance.

There will be no service on: Causeway Connection, Elk Grove Transit (including e-van), Folsom Stage Line, Rancho CordoVan and SmaRT Ride.

The Customer Service and Sales Center will be closed. The customer service phone lines (916-321-2877) will operate from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

 SacRT wishes everyone a safe holiday weekend as we remember those who dedicated their lives to service for our country.

**May is Bike Month! Bike-and-Ride with SacRT**

Bike riders across the region can take advantage of the spring weather and leave their cars at home for the annual May is Bike Month! Visit lovetoride.net to register, earn prizes and join a community of bike riders. May is Bike Month isn’t about riding the furthest or the most often, it’s about riding when you can, encouraging others and spreading the joys of bike riding far and wide.

Transit combined with bicycles make a great team. All SacRT buses have bike racks on the front that can hold two or three bikes. Bikes are allowed inside light rail trains. SacRT requires passengers with bikes to leave space available at the front of the first train car for riders with disabilities. Persons boarding light rail trains with a bicycle should not board using the mini-high ramps, as they are reserved for use by persons with disabilities. Learn more about how to bike-and-ride on transit at sacrt.com/bikeandride.

**Ready to Kickstart a New Career? SacRT is Hiring!**

SacRT is hiring for a variety of positions!

SacRT offers an extremely generous and competitive benefits package for medical, dental, paid sick leave, retirement, and tuition reimbursement. Benefits include 90% of full family health premiums\* (actual out of pocket cost depends on healthcare provider selection), and 100% dental and vision premiums paid for by SacRT.

All driver (operator) positions include $2,000 sign-on bonuses! Don’t have your Commercial Driver License (CDL)? We will help you get it!

All current job opportunities are listed at sacrt.com/careers. All applications must be submitted via the online job portal. Apply online today and begin your new career!