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**July 2024**

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**Light Rail Modernization Update**
SacRT is working on final preparations to launch new low-floor trains later this summer. SacRT has completed construction on all Gold Line stations and is currently completing the testing process on 14 of the 20 new low-floor light rail trains.

The trains are undergoing a rigorous testing process, which includes a minimum of 1,000 miles of pre-revenue service. These tests are required to ensure the new low-floor light rail vehicles are safe and reliable before passengers get on board.

SacRT is also continuing construction efforts to add a passing track to provide 15-minute service frequency to Folsom area stations. The anticipated completion date, as well as the temporary bus bridge, has been extended a few weeks due to the required movement of an underground utility cable. Once construction is complete, the new low-floor trains will operate on the Gold Line between Sacramento Valley Station and Historic Folsom Station.

The new low-floor vehicles are designed to offer a smoother and more accessible ride, particularly for passengers with disabilities, seniors, and those with strollers or bicycles. All passengers will board the new low-floor trains from the platform level, and riders in mobility devices or those needing to use the deployable ramp, can use the two middle doors.

Riders are reminded to watch their step when traveling in Gold Line stations as the platforms have been raised to meet the height requirement of the new low-floor light rail trains. For safety reasons riders are urged to cross the stations at the ends of each platform and not in the middle of the station to avoid the curb.

**Blue Line Station Rider Alert**
SacRT will begin station platform modifications on Blue Line stations this fall. The station platforms need to be raised eight inches above the track to meet the height requirements of the new low-floor light rail vehicles. New low-floor light rail trains are expected to begin service on the Blue Line in 2027 once the station platform construction is completed and additional light rail vehicles are purchased. Learn more about the project at sacrt.com/modernization.

**Watt/I-80 Transit Center Improvement Project**
This month, light rail and bus riders using the Watt I-80 Transit Center may notice some changes underway. Construction begins soon on a variety of improvements that will help create a safer, more accessible environment at one of the region’s largest transit hubs.

The Watt/I-80 Transit Center Improvement Project will include widening of the Watt Avenue Bridge, construction of an open-air stairwell linking Watt Avenue and the transit center, a new bus/pedestrian plaza, improvements to I-80 on-ramps, and upgrades to the portion of the transit center located beneath Watt Avenue. Collectively, these improvements will help attract more riders, accommodate additional bus service from other regional operators, and enhance the overall safety of the transit center.

Riders can expect temporary modifications in bus service during periods of construction, and drivers commuting to the transit center for bus or light rail service may also experience brief delays due to lane closures. SacRT will provide advance notice prior to any changes affecting bus service or access to the transit center.

The Watt I-80 Transit Center Improvement Project is expected to be completed in early 2026.

To learn more, visit sacrt.com/WattI80 or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**Bus Service Modifications Begin August 18, 2024**
Effective Sunday, August 18, 2024, SacRT will implement service changes for bus routes F10, F30, 33 and 105.

**Folsom Route 10:** Discontinue serving stops on American River Canyon Drive except for the first morning trip and last two evening trips. Route will add weekend service, including stops on Main Avenue and Madison Avenue, but not on American River Canyon Drive.

**Folsom Route 30:** Due to low ridership, bus route F30 will be discontinued. The cost savings will be used to support additional service on bus route F10. As an alternative, Folsom SmaRT Ride offers on-demand service to and from Folsom Prison.

**Route 33 (Dos Rios):** Extend evening hours with the last trip departing Alkali Flat/La Valentina Station at 6:44 p.m.

**Route 105 (Elise):** Morning trip will shift back 10 minutes and start at 7:45 a.m. to make better connections. All times will shift accordingly.

New online schedules will be available soon. Visit sacrt.com/servicechanges for details.

**RydeFreeRT is your Ticket to Summertime Fun!**

Youth in grades TK through 12th can enjoy more freedom this summer to get to summer jobs, shopping centers, restaurants and more by taking advantage of SacRT’s RydeFreeRT, the fare-free transit program for students/youth.

RydeFreeRT cards with a valid date of June 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, are available for students/youth to ride the entire SacRT transit network, including SacRT buses, light rail, and SmaRT Ride on-demand microtransit service for FREE!

To ride free, students/youth simply need a valid RydeFreeRT card. Youth who are experiencing homelessness or taking part in foster programs are also allowed to participate in the program regardless of current residence or school address.

Students/youth who do not have a RydeFreeRT card can visit SacRT’s Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street (adjacent to the 13th Street Station) or a participating Sacramento public library. For more information, visit [rydefreert.com](http://rydefreert.com/) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**Sunday/Holiday Schedule on 4th of July**
On Thursday, July 4, 2024, SacRT fixed-route bus, light rail and SacRT GO paratransit services will operate on a Sunday/holiday schedule. The following services will not operate:

Causeway Connection, Elk Grove/UC Davis Medical Center Express (bus route 137), SmaRT Ride, Folsom Transit Services, Elk Grove Transit Services (including e-van), and Rancho CordoVan.

The Customer Service and Sales Center at 1225 R Street will be closed; however, the phone lines will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. For trip planning assistance, call 916-321-BUSS (2877) or visit sacrt.com/planyourtrip.

**Ride SacRT FREE to Local 4th of July Events**

SacRT is offering free rides to two local Fourth of July celebrations. Learn more at sacrt.com/4thofjuly.

Ride Free to Elk Grove’s Salute to Red, White and Blue

On Thursday, July 4, 2024, SacRT will offer free shuttle rides for Elk Grove’s Salutes the Red, White & Blue Festival for those traveling to and from Elk Grove Park. Attendees will enjoy live music, bike parade, vendors, food and of course, the fireworks!

Starting at 4:30 p.m., the Red and Blue shuttle lines will begin service in the city of Elk Grove and provide shuttle service to the park every 15 minutes. The shuttle drop-off and pick-up location inside the park will be in front of the Pavilion. For ADA certified passengers, SacRT e-van service will be provided within 3/4 mile of the Red Shuttle and Blue Shuttle routes, during the shuttle hours. Visit exploreelkgrove.com for event information.

Celebrate with FREE Rides to Rancho Cordova's Fourth of July Celebration

SacRT is offering FREE rides to Rancho Cordova's Fourth of July Celebration on Wednesday, July 3 and Thursday, July 4, 2023 at Hagan Park. Rancho Cordova is celebrating Independence Day with a two-day festival, including carnival rides, concerts, a parade and fireworks.

Bus route 21 serves the bus stop closest to Hagan Park on Wednesday and Thursday with the last bus departing at 9:03 p.m. toward the Mather Field/Mills Station. Visit sacrt.com/freerideflyer to print or screenshot the free ride flyer to ride light rail or bus for free. Visit ranchocordovajuly4th.com for event information.

**Take SacRT to the California State Fair**

Going to the California State Fair? Take SacRT! Bus routes 67 and 68 provide convenient service to the Cal Expo main gate just steps from the entrance. The California State Fair will be held July 12 - July 28, 2024.

Please check trip times before riding. Service on bus routes 67 and 68 ends prior to the nightly closing of the fair. To plan your trip on SacRT, visit [sacrt.com/schedules](http://www.sacrt.com/schedules) or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

**Arden/Del Paso Parking Lot Closing in July**

The Arden/Del Paso park-and-ride lot will be closed starting July 15,2024 for construction of an affordable housing development adjacent to the lot. The lot is expected to be closed for approximately two years. On street parking is available or riders can park at Globe or Swanston stations.

**Join the Mobility Advisory Council!**

Are you interested in helping improve the lives of seniors and persons with disabilities? Join SacRT’s Mobility Advisory Council (MAC).

SacRT’s Board of Directors and staff greatly value the ability to consult with the MAC on service issues affecting the disability and elderly community. The MAC provides SacRT with the consumer’s perspective on many of SacRT’s system improvements. The MAC meets once per month in the SacRT Auditorium.

Volunteers don’t need to have a disability to serve on the MAC, but they need to have some knowledge about mobility issues faced by the senior and disabled community. Applications are available online at sacrt.com/MAC. If you have questions, or recommendations for potential members, please contact Priscilla Vargas, SacRT’s ADA Compliance Officer, at 279-234-8391 or by email at pvargas@sacrt.com.