

# Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District



## General Manager's Report – May 2021

5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
Tel: (707) 794-3330  
Fax: (707) 794-3037  
[www.SonomaMarinTrain.org](http://www.SonomaMarinTrain.org)

## NEW PROMOTIONAL FARES

SMART is kicking off its Welcome Back celebration with new reduced fares available only on the **SMART e-Tickets app** until September 2021, when the reduced fares will also be available on Clipper. The promotional fare will run through May 31, 2022, and offer riders over 40% off the price of fares.

SMART has reduced its weekday fares to a \$1.50 base for travel within 1 zone and \$1.50 for each additional zone traveled. Seniors, youth, low-income, and passengers with disabilities will receive a 50% discount rate of \$0.75 for the first zone and \$0.75 for each additional zone.

SMART is also pleased to offer a **Weekend Day Pass** to our weekend travelers – a fantastic deal for families with children or grandparents. The Weekend Day Pass is \$10.00 for adults & 5.00 for seniors, youth, passengers with disabilities, and low-income passengers. The Weekend Day Pass offers unlimited rides for the entire day. This promotional pass will be available on the SMART e-Tickets app beginning Saturday, June 5, 2021.

The mobile ticketing app is available for download in the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). See our [Mobile App FAQs](#) for additional information.

In September 2021, SMART will offer a discounted 31-day pass providing unlimited rides for \$135 for adults and \$67.50 for youth, seniors, and passengers with disabilities. The 31-day pass is not available on SMART’s eTicket app.

	PAYING WITH CLIPPER CARD		PROMOTIONAL FARES ON SMART E-TICKETS	
	ADULT	DISCOUNT	ADULT	DISCOUNT
Travelling within 1 Zone ⓘ	\$3.50	\$1.75	\$1.50	\$0.75
Traveling within 2 Zones ⓘ	\$5.50	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$1.50
Traveling within 3 Zones ⓘ	\$7.50	\$3.75	\$4.50	\$2.25
Travelling within 4 Zones ⓘ	\$9.50	\$4.75	\$6.00	\$3.00
Traveling within 5 Zones ⓘ	\$11.50	\$5.75	\$7.50	\$3.75
Maximum per day for all trips on SMART	\$23.00	\$11.50	Not Available	Not Available

On Monday, May 24, 2021, SMART added two new morning trips and three new afternoon trips to the weekday schedule. These additional trips address SMART commuters’ requests for later morning trips and later afternoon trips. Additionally, SMART now offers the last Northbound train departing the Larkspur Station at 8:29 PM to enable riders visiting Marin County to enjoy dinner and travel back by train. Saturday weekend service resumed on May 29.



Effective **May 24, 2021**  
 Efectivo **el 24 de mayo de 2021**



AM Times  PM Times

**TEMPORARY WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**  
**HORARIO TEMPORAL DE DÍAS LABORABLES**

SOUTHBOUND - Sonoma County Airport to Larkspur DIRECCIÓN SUR - Sonoma County Airport a Larkspur													
TRAIN NUMBER	3	5	9	13	15	19	21	23	27	29	33	35	39
Sonoma County Airport	5:02	6:06	7:10	8:14	9:18	12:45	1:17	2:21	3:25	3:57	5:01	5:33	6:37
Santa Rosa North	5:09	6:13	7:17	8:21	9:25	12:52	1:24	2:28	3:32	4:04	5:08	5:40	6:44
Santa Rosa Downtown	5:13	6:17	7:21	8:25	9:29	12:56	1:28	2:32	3:36	4:08	5:12	5:44	6:48
Rohnert Park	5:21	6:25	7:29	8:33	9:37	1:04	1:36	2:40	3:44	4:16	5:20	5:52	6:56
Cotati	5:24	6:28	7:32	8:36	9:40	1:07	1:39	2:43	3:47	4:19	5:23	5:55	6:59
Petaluma Downtown	5:39	6:43	7:47	8:51	9:55	1:22	1:54	2:58	4:02	4:34	5:38	6:10	7:14
Novato San Marin	5:51	6:55	7:59	9:03	10:07	1:34	2:06	3:10	4:14	4:46	5:50	6:22	7:26
Novato Downtown	5:54	6:58	8:02	9:06	10:10	1:37	2:09	3:13	4:17	4:49	5:53	6:25	7:29
Novato Hamilton	6:02	7:06	8:10	9:14	10:18	1:45	2:17	3:21	4:25	4:57	6:01	6:33	7:37
Marin Civic Center	6:08	7:12	8:16	9:20	10:24	1:51	2:23	3:27	4:31	5:03	6:07	6:39	7:43
San Rafael	6:14	7:18	8:22	9:26	10:30	1:57	2:29	3:33	4:37	5:09	6:13	6:45	7:49
Larkspur	6:21	7:25	8:29	9:33	10:37	2:04	2:36	3:40	4:44	5:16	6:20	6:52	7:56

NORTHBOUND - Larkspur to Sonoma County Airport DIRECCIÓN NORTE - Larkspur a Sonoma County Airport													
TRAIN NUMBER	4	6	10	14	16	20	22	24	28	30	34	36	40
Larkspur	6:38	7:42	8:46	9:50	10:54	2:21	2:53	3:57	5:01	5:33	6:37	7:09	8:29
San Rafael	6:46	7:50	8:54	9:58	11:02	2:29	3:01	4:05	5:09	5:41	6:45	7:17	8:37
Marin Civic Center	6:51	7:55	8:59	10:03	11:07	2:34	3:06	4:10	5:14	5:46	6:50	7:22	8:42
Novato Hamilton	6:58	8:02	9:06	10:10	11:14	2:41	3:13	4:17	5:21	5:53	6:57	7:29	8:49
Novato Downtown	7:04	8:08	9:12	10:16	11:20	2:47	3:19	4:23	5:27	5:59	7:03	7:35	8:55
Novato San Marin	7:07	8:11	9:15	10:19	11:23	2:50	3:22	4:26	5:30	6:02	7:06	7:38	8:58
Petaluma Downtown	7:20	8:24	9:28	10:32	11:36	3:03	3:35	4:39	5:43	6:15	7:19	7:51	9:11
Cotati	7:33	8:37	9:41	10:45	11:49	3:16	3:48	4:52	5:56	6:28	7:32	8:04	9:24
Rohnert Park	7:37	8:41	9:45	10:49	11:53	3:20	3:52	4:56	6:00	6:32	7:36	8:08	9:28
Santa Rosa Downtown	7:45	8:49	9:53	10:57	12:01	3:28	4:00	5:04	6:08	6:40	7:44	8:16	9:36
Santa Rosa North	7:49	8:53	9:57	11:01	12:05	3:32	4:04	5:08	6:12	6:44	7:48	8:20	9:40
Sonoma County Airport	7:55	8:59	10:03	11:07	12:11	3:38	4:10	5:14	6:18	6:50	7:54	8:26	9:46

**TEMPORARY WEEKEND/HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - SATURDAY ONLY, EFFECTIVE MAY 29**  
**HORARIO TEMPORAL DE LOS FINES DE SEMANA Y DÍAS FERIADOS - SOLO EL SÁBADO, EFECTIVO EL 29 DE MAYO**

SOUTHBOUND - Sonoma County Airport to Larkspur DIRECCIÓN SUR - Sonoma County Airport a Larkspur						
TRAIN NUMBER	1	3	5	7	9	11
Sonoma County Airport	7:35	9:35	11:35	1:35	3:35	5:35
Santa Rosa North	7:42	9:42	11:42	1:42	3:42	5:42
Santa Rosa Downtown	7:46	9:46	11:46	1:46	3:46	5:46
Rohnert Park	7:54	9:54	11:54	1:54	3:54	5:54
Cotati	7:57	9:57	11:57	1:57	3:57	5:57
Petaluma Downtown	8:12	10:12	12:12	2:12	4:12	6:12
Novato San Marin	8:24	10:24	12:24	2:24	4:24	6:24
Novato Downtown	8:27	10:27	12:27	2:27	4:27	6:27
Novato Hamilton	8:35	10:35	12:35	2:35	4:35	6:35
Marin Civic Center	8:41	10:41	12:41	2:41	4:41	6:41
San Rafael	8:47	10:47	12:47	2:47	4:47	6:47
Larkspur	8:54	10:54	12:54	2:54	4:54	6:54

NORTHBOUND - Larkspur to Sonoma County Airport DIRECCIÓN NORTE - Larkspur a Sonoma County Airport						
TRAIN NUMBER	2	4	6	8	10	12
Larkspur	9:34	11:34	1:34	3:34	5:34	7:34
San Rafael	9:42	11:42	1:42	3:42	5:42	7:42
Marin Civic Center	9:47	11:47	1:47	3:47	5:47	7:47
Novato Hamilton	9:54	11:54	1:54	3:54	5:54	7:54
Novato Downtown	10:00	12:00	2:00	4:00	6:00	8:00
Novato San Marin	10:03	12:03	2:03	4:03	6:03	8:03
Petaluma Downtown	10:16	12:16	2:16	4:16	6:16	8:16
Cotati	10:29	12:29	2:29	4:29	6:29	8:29
Rohnert Park	10:33	12:33	2:33	4:33	6:33	8:33
Santa Rosa Downtown	10:41	12:41	2:41	4:41	6:41	8:41
Santa Rosa North	10:45	12:45	2:45	4:45	6:45	8:45
Sonoma County Airport	10:51	12:51	2:51	4:51	6:51	8:51



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MARKETING

## Welcome Back Campaign

In May, SMART's Community Outreach and Marketing team prepared and launched the Welcome Back campaign, a 10-point plan to welcome our riders back on board. In coordination with Civic Edge Consulting, SMART initiated a robust social media campaign coupled with an extended approach to increase engagement and ridership throughout the summer.

The 10-point plan includes:

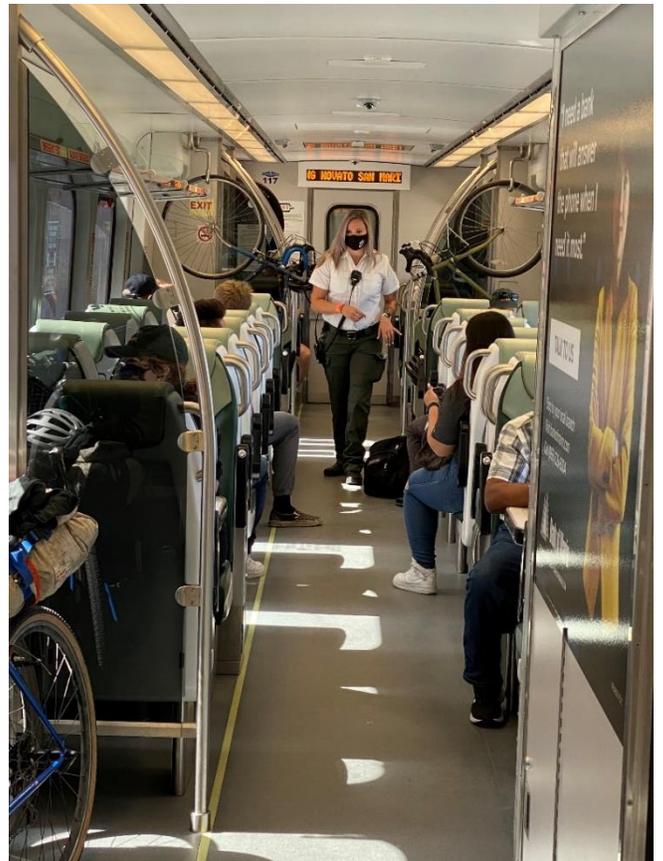
1. Increase weekday train service
2. Resume Saturday train service
3. Introduce promotional discount fares
4. COVID-19 preventative measures
5. Require masks, as directed by TSA guidelines
6. Contactless payment
7. Maintain a healthy workforce
8. Safety signage at SMART facilities
9. Community Outreach and Marketing
10. Customer Service



The Welcome Back campaign was constructed in response to information gathered from the community, in the form of a public survey. The Schedule Improvement Survey was conducted in May to assess new travel patterns as COVID-19 restrictions ease in the North Bay. The information collected was used to understand how SMART could adjust the service and schedule to meet the needs of the community. 1,124 responses were collected from May 10 through May 16. Overwhelmingly, the public requested an increased frequency of train service during the weekday commute and increased service on the weekends. Responses also indicated that a lower fare and more connections to other transit and destinations would increase their likelihood of riding the train. View the full survey results [here](#).



On Saturday, May 29, SMART celebrated the return of Saturday weekend service. A live Mariachi band performed at the San Rafael and Santa Rosa Downtown stations to welcome our riders back on board. SMART staff handed out special giveaways to passengers enjoying the ride throughout the day. On Monday, May 31, members of the San Marin High School Concert band performed at the Petaluma Station in celebration of Memorial Day. Check out a few photos from the day!





## Media | May News Coverage

- May 24, *SMART train systems make changes for expanded service* (KPIX TV Channel 5)
- May 23, *Commuter rail agency, SMART, to expand weekday and weekend service* (KCBS Radio)
- May 23, *SMART adds trips, cuts fares as COVID-19 pandemic eases* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 21, *SMART to expand service, slash fare to spur ridership as pandemic wanes* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- May 20, *Larkspur joins regional electric bike sharing program* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 20, *SMART expanding service as ridership returns following pandemic drop* (The Healdsburg Tribune)
- May 19, *Starting Monday, SMART to add more daily trains for Sonoma, Marin commuters* (Sonoma Index-Tribune)
- May 20, *SMART adding five weekday round trips, resuming Saturday operations* (Trains.com)
- May 19, *Starting Monday, SMART to add more daily trains for Sonoma, Marin commuters* (North Bay Business Journal)
- May 16, *Editorial: Goals for San Rafael streets may be too ambitious* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 14, *Marin Voice: 'Ready for you' public transit agencies stay safe amid pandemic* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 14, *Man identified in fatal Sant Rosa SMART train collision* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- May 13, *A Norcal public transit wish list* (SF Weekly)
- May 13, *Petaluma, SMART look to tap state funds to revive second station* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- May 12, *Pedestrian fatally struck by SMART train in Sonoma County* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- May 12, *SMART conductor honked horn multiple times before train struck, killed man* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- May 11, *Bike sharing program on the way for Sonoma and Marin counties* (KSRO Radio)

- May 11, *Pedestrian dies after being hit by SMART train in Santa Rosa* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- May 10, *Marin, Sonoma bike sharing program nears rollout* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 8, *Editorial: Editorial: San Rafael deserves latest considerations for new transit center* (Marin Independent Journal)
- May 1, *Dick Spotswood: SMART's next GM should be transparent with a can-do attitude* (Marin Independent Journal)
- April 29, *As the coronavirus pandemic subsides, Petaluma ponders its path forward* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- April 27, *SMART board approves rail and pathway projects* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- April 26, *San Rafael hub project nears key vote* (Marin Independent Journal)
- April 24, *Dick Spotswood: Working from home always greener than commuting – even via public transportation* (Marin Independent Journal)

# OPERATIONS

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## VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

- Performed overhaul brake maintenance on Diesel Multiple Unit 110. This maintenance involves removing all brake components and sending them out to a third party to have them inspected and certified. This maintenance allows SMART to stay in compliance with Federal Railroad Administration's requirements.
- Performed emergency exit window pull test on 6 of the Diesel Multiple Units. The test is to establish confidence per the Code of Federal Regulations that the emergency exit windows will react as designed during an emergency.
- Replaced vestibule curtains on Diesel Multiple Units 106, 104, 107, 108, and 117 due to excessive wear.
- Performed field modification upgrade to the Selective Catalytic Reduction brackets on Diesel Multiple Units 108, 110 and 118. This upgrade is performed by lifting the Diesel Multiple Unit and removing the engine and diesel power module. Once the brackets are replaced, the engine and diesel power module are reinstalled.
- Performed annual maintenance on 1 Diesel Multiple Unit
- Performed mid-year maintenance on 1 Diesel Multiple Units
- Performed 500-hour oil change on 2 Diesel Multiple Units
- Automatic Train Control maintenance performed on 3 Diesel Multiple Units. This maintenance keeps us compliant with Federal Regulatory Association regulations, with regards to positive train control.
- Performed data downloads on the fleet. The Diesel Multiple Units have many subsystems that are integrated. Downloading the systems data provides SMART an opportunity to investigate different occurrences that may not show during our normal inspections.

## TRANSPORTATION:

- Engineer-Conductor Training continues.
- Dispatcher/Control Supervisor training continues.

### *SMART Transportation Department Training:*

- Yearly training for Dispatcher's
- Currently updating online training programs for year 2021.



## MAINTENANCE OF WAY:

- Signal team along with Train control Manager completed electronic program books for all signal locations.
- Signal team welcomed a new Signal Technician to their Team.
- Track department continued interviewing for Track Supervisor, and Track Maintainer.
- Track department provided track protection for the Engineering departments Multi use Pathway project connecting our stations, and proposed Bridge work.
- Facilities department completed interviews for Facilities Maintenance Supervisor.
- Facilities team completed Graffiti removal at Cotati, Healdsburg, Downtown Santa Rosa.
- Facilities team installed Welcome Back signs at all of SMART's platforms.

## Signal, Track and Facilities Team



Vehicle on the track North of Novato San Marin Station

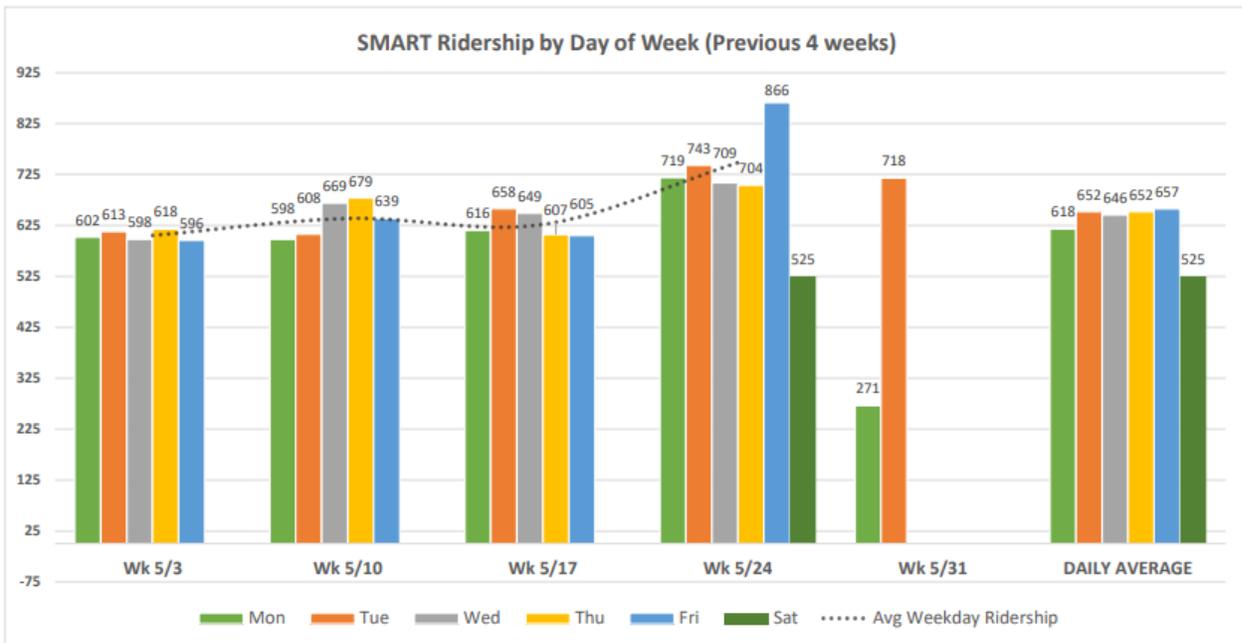
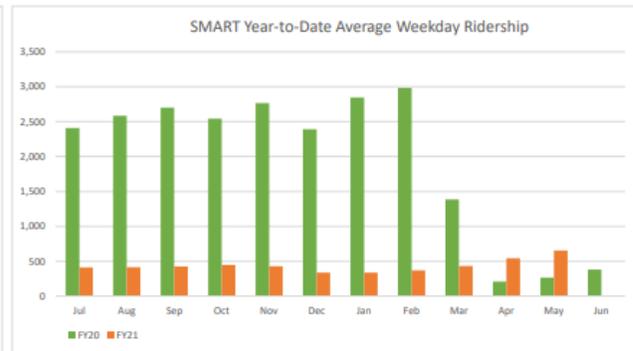
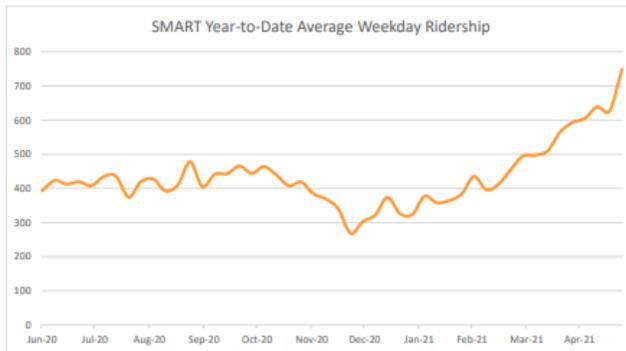
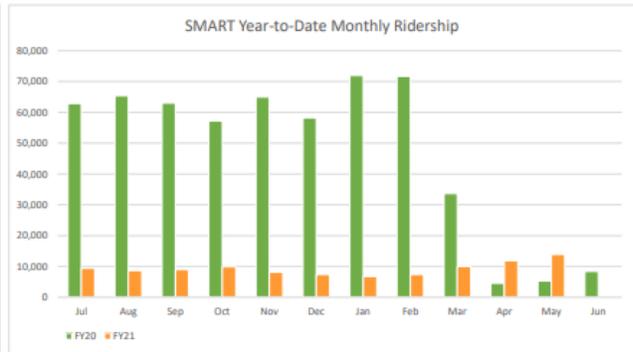
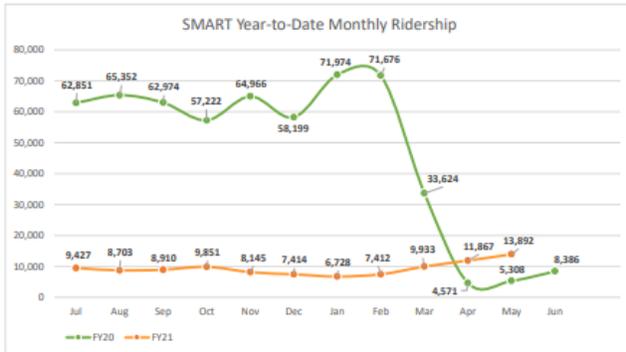
# RIDERSHIP INFORMATION

## FY21 SMART Ridership Weekly Report (DRAFT; Post-COVID)

### Onboard Counts

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total (Onboard Counts)	Avg Weekday Ridership	Bikes	Wheelchairs
6/29/2020	419	431	429	390	297		1,966	393	426	2
7/6/2020	421	462	420	420	392		2,115	423	453	4
7/13/2020	412	414	419	421	397		2,063	413	465	5
7/20/2020	369	394	418	488	425		2,094	419	514	8
7/27/2020	379	404	390	452	414		2,039	408	464	5
8/3/2020	417	437	404	440	476		2,174	435	474	9
8/10/2020	433	464	438	446	396		2,177	435	506	1
8/17/2020	346	418	387	399	324		1,874	375	403	6
8/24/2020	349	407	406	467	467		2,096	419	436	3
8/31/2020	382	459	417	441	438		2,137	427	423	4
9/7/2020	Hol	414	393	396	368		1,571	393	345	4
9/14/2020	374	424	398	403	452		2,051	410	384	8
9/21/2020	435	472	470	517	494		2,388	478	490	23
9/28/2020	316	365	464	453	428		2,026	405	356	12
10/5/2020	407	469	434	423	475		2,208	442	431	12
10/12/2020	394	482	416	455	469		2,216	443	430	9
10/19/2020	436	513	409	478	491		2,327	465	444	9
10/26/2020	386	438	410	496	489		2,219	444	459	15
11/2/2020	432	503	455	480	448		2,318	464	494	10
11/9/2020	433	452	416	478	415		2,194	439	451	6
11/16/2020	404	386	404	419	426		2,039	408	456	3
11/23/2020	417	437	402	Hol	Hol		1,256	419	210	3
11/30/2020	338	412	394	400	376		1,920	384	491	4
12/7/2020	360	401	331	374	380		1,846	369	411	4
12/14/2020	306	404	332	337	323		1,702	340	377	8
12/21/2020	323	307	304	140	Hol		1,074	269	258	1
12/28/2020	330	329	323	228	Hol		1,210	303	240	6
1/4/2021	275	321	304	360	351		1,611	322	308	1
1/11/2021	356	371	380	381	379		1,867	373	422	3
1/18/2021	273	327	342	384	308		1,634	327	352	5
1/25/2021	359	290	302	309	356		1,616	323	284	1
2/1/2021	302	398	391	400	394		1,885	377	385	1
2/8/2021	311	372	379	338	389		1,789	358	341	3
2/15/2021	272	397	392	382	377		1,820	364	343	5
2/22/2021	350	365	407	403	393		1,918	384	414	1
3/1/2021	394	419	431	431	500		2,175	435	416	5
3/8/2021	405	350	337	432	457		1,981	396	324	2
3/15/2021	433	429	436	353	410		2,061	412	373	5
3/22/2021	399	499	450	446	486		2,280	456	422	3
3/29/2021	447	516	473	519	519		2,474	495	522	2
4/5/2021	452	503	492	496	542		2,485	497	460	6
4/12/2021	460	521	556	533	482		2,552	510	501	3
4/19/2021	529	597	544	620	538		2,828	566	519	13
4/26/2021	556	572	604	652	580		2,964	593	532	13
5/3/2021	602	613	598	618	596		3,027	605	579	27
5/10/2021	598	608	669	679	639		3,193	639	656	28
5/17/2021	616	658	649	607	605		3,135	627	608	30
5/24/2021	719	743	709	704	866	525	4,266	748	707	52
5/31/2021	271	718	Monday: Memorial Day Holiday (Saturday Service)					718		





## WINDSOR EXTENSION PROJECT

- Installation of the pedestrian traffic signal at the railroad crossing on Airport Boulevard began in April. The signal is planned to be activated at the end of May. This signal will not only help keep the track clear once SMART starts running service north of the Sonoma County Airport Station, but it also creates a pathway connection to the future pathway to Windsor and beyond.
- Construction has been suspended because the Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Bridge Toll funding has not been distributed due to a lawsuit against Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). The lawsuit questions whether the toll fee should be treated as a tax and not a user fee. In October of 2020, the State Supreme Court agreed to hear the appeal case, which will continue to delay the funding until the outcome is determined by the court.



Traffic Signal Equipment Installation on Airport Blvd

## **MULTI-USE PATHWAY PROJECT**

*Sonoma County Pathway Gap Closure Project - \$13.5M*

- South Point Boulevard in Petaluma to Main Street in Penngrove (2.9 mi)
- Golf Course Drive in Rohnert Park to Bellevue Avenue in Santa Rosa (2.8 mi)

The design team is focusing on:

- Evaluating utility conflicts and impacts to environmental features along the pathway alignment.
- The Corps of Engineers and the Regional Water Quality Control Board conducted field reviews to officially delineate wetlands within the project alignment.
- Finalizing the environmental permit applications to be submitted to the regulatory agencies.
- Advancing the pathway construction documents to 95% design level.



Regulatory Agencies conducting field review to verify wetlands

## **ROBLAR TIMBER TRESTLE REPAIR**

- The project replaces two large bridge timbers and 6 timber ties which had been identified as having splitting and rotting issues during the annual bridge inspections.
- Since timber prices have increased significantly with low supply, this project was recently rebid to get more competitive bids after SMART was able to acquire required materials and a contractor has now been chosen.



Inspection of the Roblar Timber Trestle with Potential Contractors

## FREIGHT SERVICE

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On February 2, 2021 SMART, filed a Verified Notice of Exemption before the Surface Transportation Board to acquire the right-of-way and freight rail operating easement from North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) – from the Mendocino/Sonoma County line (at MP 89) to the freight interchange junction in Napa (The Line).

On February 18, 2021, the Surface Transportation Board indicated that SMART and NCRA could consummate the transaction and SMART could acquire The Line on or after March 4, 2021 (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

On February 22, 2021, Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company (NWPCo) Petitioned the Surface Transportation Board for Discontinuance of Service Exemption (requesting authority to cease being the freight rail operator / provider in Napa, Marin, and Sonoma Counties). The Surface Transportation Board instituted an exemption proceeding and set June 11, 2021 for the Final decision.

On March 26, 2021 NCRA/SMART consummated the transaction related to the acquired right-of-way and railroad freight easement, pursuant to the verified notice and Surface Transportation Board authorization.

Surface Transportation Board set June 11, 2021 to review and evaluate NWPCo's petition for discontinuance.

# HUMAN RESOURCE

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## CURRENT OPEN RECRUITMENTS:

- General Manager
- Track Supervisor
- Engineer Conductor
- Real Estate Manager
- Vehicle Maintenance Technician
- Laborer

## NEW PROMOTIONS/HIRES

- Administration Department hired Administration Assistant
- Grants and Planning Department hired Assistant Planner

## INTERVIEWS

The District held interviews for the following positions:

- Track Supervisor
- Vehicle Maintenance Technician

## MISCELLANEOUS

Staff met with the Teamsters Union regarding renewal of the Track Supervisors Contract which expires on June 30, 2021.



# GRANTS, LEGISLATION, PLANNING AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL LANNING ACTIVITIES

*Local Planning Department Notification and Coordination Tracking:* SMART Planning Staff also tracks and reviews all notices sent by local jurisdictions for projects occurring adjacent to or nearby the railroad tracks. In 2020 staff received and reviewed **58** different notices through May and in 2021 to date SMART has received and reviewed **18** different notices.

*Plan Bay Area 2050 – Public Comment Requested:* On May 26, 2021, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) released Draft Plan Bay Area 2050 for public comment. The public comment period ends July 20, 2021, and virtual workshops and public hearings to be held through July 7, 2021. There will also be a Draft Environmental Impact Report on the plan released at the end of May. The Plan Bay Area 2050 North Bay Workshop (Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties) will be held Wednesday June 30 at 12 p.m. via Zoom. More information can be found on MTC's website regarding opportunities to comment. <https://mtc.ca.gov/whats-happening/news/draft-plan-bay-area-2050-released-public-invited-comment-online-or-virtual>

Plan Bay Area is the long-range transportation and land use planning document for the nine-county Bay Area, focusing on the economy, environment, housing and transportation. Inclusion in the financially constrained future transportation investment plan allows projects to compete for discretionary grant funds when those funds become available through an application process.

The SMART Board has heard staff reports on Plan Bay Area 2050 on May 15, 2019, and July 15, 2020. The Transportation Authority of Marin and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority have also discussed Plan Bay Area 2050, including prioritization of transportation investments, in advance of this MTC release of the Draft document.

### *State Route 37 – Planning Processes Underway:*

- SR37 Policy Committee (Resilient SR37);
- SR37 Caltrans Planning and Environmental Linkages Study (SR37 PEL Study);
- SR37 Caltrans Comprehensive Multi-Modal Corridor Plan
- US 101 TO SR 121 Environmental & Design Alternative Analysis;
- Sears Point to Mare Island (Congestion Relief) – Environmental Impact Report Scoping.

A quarterly **State Route 37 Policy Committee (Resilient 37)** meeting took place on March 4, 2021, with the next meetings of the group scheduled for June 3 and October 7, 2021. The Joint Baylands Core Team and Resilient 37 Project Leadership Team have been meeting to provide technical support of the Resilient 37 Policy Committee, most recently on March 16, 2021. SMART staff have been invited to attend this technical advisory committee for the first time, on July 16, 2021.

The **SR37 Planning and Environmental Linkages (SR37 PEL) Study** meetings are taking place approximately quarterly, with a Stakeholder meeting, online survey and SMART staff interviews having occurred in late 2020. A PEL multi-jurisdictional meeting took place on March 26, 2021, with

SMART planning and engineering staff participating, and staff remotely attended an evening community meeting on this PEL process that took place May 26 from 5:30-7.

SMART staff participated in one-on-one meeting with Caltrans and Sonoma County Transportation Authority staff on February 10 & March 19 regarding their **SR37 Comprehensive Multi-Modal Corridor Plan (SR37 CMCP)** process underway. This CMCP plan is a required pre-requisite for applications for state SB1 Solutions for Congested Corridors funding.

In addition, there are a host of other near term SR37 technical advisory meetings taking place, including the US101 to SR121 environmental and design process meetings through Summer 2021. SMART staff attends and participates in these meetings as staffing levels allow.

*Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan:* SMART participates in a coordinated effort related to the Bay Area Healthy Transit Plan. The plan reporting dashboard can be found here:

<http://dashboard.healthytransitplan.com/> . The regional page has a direct link to SMART's COVID Response web location here: <http://www.sonomamarintrain.org/Covid-19>

#### SYSTEM ACCESS PLANNING ACTIVITIES:

*Bike Share:* The Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) and Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) are implementing a Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)-funded bike share system around several SMART stations as a First/Last-Mile access solution. SCTA and TAM have selected Bolt Mobility (formerly known as Gotcha Mobility) as the operator of the Bike Share Pilot Program. The pilot program will roll-out 300 GPS-enabled electric bicycles for three years centered around SMART stations. SMART staff participates in the Bikeshare Working Group supporting this effort.

The most recent meeting took place April 28, 2021, covering an inter-agency coordination agreement and a coordinated Board/Council package for upcoming operational approval. Local jurisdictions scheduled to consider this agreement in April and May include Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Petaluma, Novato, San Rafael and Larkspur.

An online survey was completed March 19, 2021, by SCTA and TAM to collect public feedback on possible bike share pod locations for this initial pilot program and beyond in order to gauge market demand for both private and public bike share pods along the corridor. The vendor is working with local jurisdictions over the next several months to site the bike share hubs and set pricing. Launch of the system is anticipated in Fall 2021.

#### TRANSIT COORDINATION MEETINGS:

- **May 5, 2021** - Staff participated in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) monthly **Transit Finance Working Group** meeting. Discussions included several standing item updates: legislative updates, funding notices, Transportation Improvement Program update,

Cap and Trade Update, an agency briefing from the Region IX office of the Federal Transit Administration, and Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

- **May 12, 2021** – Staff participated in Sonoma County Transportation Authority’s monthly **Transit Technical Advisory Committee** meeting. Standing items were discussed including transit operator updates, Sonoma County’s Future of Transit Ad Hoc Committee status, the Blue Ribbon Transit Task Force updates, and Clipper implementation and usage for C2, Clipper App and Clipper START.
- **May 4 & 18, 2021** – Staff attended the **Blue-Ribbon Transit Task Transit Caucus – Planning and Operations Subcommittee** meetings remotely. The agenda included preparation of presentations on Network coordination for the Blue Ribbon Transit Task Force and a coordinated approach to adapting physical distancing guidelines as counties revise their COVID ratings due to improved outcomes.
- **May 4, 11, 18 & 25 - 2021** – Bay Area Transit Operator ongoing coordination meetings. SMART staff met with the Bay Area’s smaller transit operators, defined as any except the seven largest transit operators, weekly to coordinate comments and activities associated with COVID-19 response, the MTC Blue Ribbon Transit Task Force Public Transit Transformation Action Plan, Clipper 2.0 and other topics of regional significance.
- **May 13, 17, 26 & 27** – Staff attended remotely the Fare Integration Task Force meeting and meetings associated with the task force work, including the Fare Integration and Coordination Study Technical Advisory Committee meetings and a Fare Integration Task Force public briefing webinar of transit agency board members.
- **May 13, 2021** – Staff attended a Quarterly meeting of commuter and inter-city rail staff hosted by the State of California, the Northern California Mega-Regional Rail Coordination meeting. Topics discussed included the 2022 State Rail Plan Update, Caltrans Funding Priority Development, the first State-wide Interregional Bus Study under development, and the State’s Rail Fleet Consortium and Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Development update.
- **May 24, 2021** – Staff attended the **Blue-Ribbon Transit Task Force** meeting virtually. The agenda included detailed discussions on transit **Network Management** and a presentation by Sonoma County Transportation Authority on their Transit Integration project with Santa Rosa CityBus, Sonoma County Transit and Petaluma Transit.

**GRANT ACTIVITIES:**

*American Rescue Plan (ARP):* The Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) was passed on March 11, 2021. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) posted the apportionment table on March 29, 2021, for the Section 5307 funds for distribution to Urbanized Areas across the nation for transit use. The Bay Area will receive \$1.7 billion, directed to the multiple urbanized areas that comprise the Bay Area, of which \$1.3 billion will be directed to transit operators reporting to the San Francisco-Oakland urbanized area and \$27 million will come to transit operators reporting to the Santa Rosa urbanized area, including SMART.

MTC has commenced its process to re-distribute the FTA apportionments and anticipates adopting Regional Principles for this re-distribution at their June 9<sup>th</sup> morning meeting of their Programming and Allocations Committee with a special afternoon meeting of the Committee to hear special presentations by the transit operators. A partial first tranche allocation of these funds is expected at their July 28<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting and subsequent allocations to be completed at a time and scale to be determined later.

*Metropolitan Transportation Safe and Seamless Mobility Quick Strike Program (Quick Strike):* The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has established a one-time grant program of approximately \$50 million in federal funds region-wide to fund Safe and Seamless Mobility projects. Projects funded with these grants must have funding obligated by September 2022 and are focused on bicycle/pedestrian safety and mobility, connections to transit, and projects that advance equitable mobility.

SMART submitted two SMART Pathway projects as part of this Quick Strike program:

- The Payran to Lakeville SMART Pathway segment in Central Petaluma was submitted to SCTA seeking \$806,000 in Quick Strike funds to complete construction of this segment.
- The McInnis to Smith Ranch SMART Pathway segment in San Rafael, a San Francisco Bay Trail gap closure project, connecting between the Marin Civic Center and McInnis Regional Park over Las Gallinas Creek, was submitted to TAM seeking \$2.16 million in Quick Strike federal funds to complete the construction of this segment.

MTC staff has recommended funding the Payran to Lakeville SMART Pathway segment, having received 71 project nominations requesting \$108 million. MTC is also considering adding \$34 million in Federal CRRSAA relief funds into the Quick Strike program with half to be programmed to Regionally Significant projects. TAM has requested the SMART Pathway segment in San Rafael be considered for these additional funds. The City of San Rafael has written a letter of support as a partner agency in the application. The Commission will consider adoption of the full program at their June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

*Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE):* The U.S. Department of Transportation has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for \$1 billion in Fiscal Year 2021 discretionary grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants. RAISE, formerly known as BUILD and TIGER, will provide maximum awards of \$25 million, with no State being awarded more than \$100 million in total. This program is highly competitive with approximately 7% of requests being funded.

The State of California has prioritized three projects for submittal into the RAISE competition as official submittals of the State and SMART's Windsor Extension Project is one of those three submittals. Applications are due July 12, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES:

*State Assembly Bill 629 (CHIU):* Assemblymember Chiu’s proposed legislation (AB629) to improve regional transit through all transportation agencies in the Bay Area has become a 2-year bill. The bill’s stated purpose is to make improvements across fare coordination, real time transit schedules, and regional coordination on transit wayfinding. The improvements will require coordination between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), county-level transportation agencies and transit agencies with the goals of:

- (a) Integrating all transit in the region to operate as one seamless, easy-to-use, multimodal transit system from the perspective of the user.
- (b) Equitably expand and improve access to high-quality, reliable, and affordable public transportation.
- (c) Prioritize institutional reforms that support the creation of a more seamless and resilient public transportation network.

# SAFETY AND SECURITY



Trespasser along tracks - Steel Lane, Santa Rosa



Trespasser on the tracks - Third St., Santa Rosa



Garden Hose Under Track – San Miguel, Santa Rosa



Trespasser sleeping near tracks - Ely Road, Petaluma