

# Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District

Adopting the Geyserville Station into the SMART Program and  
approval of the project

August 19, 2026



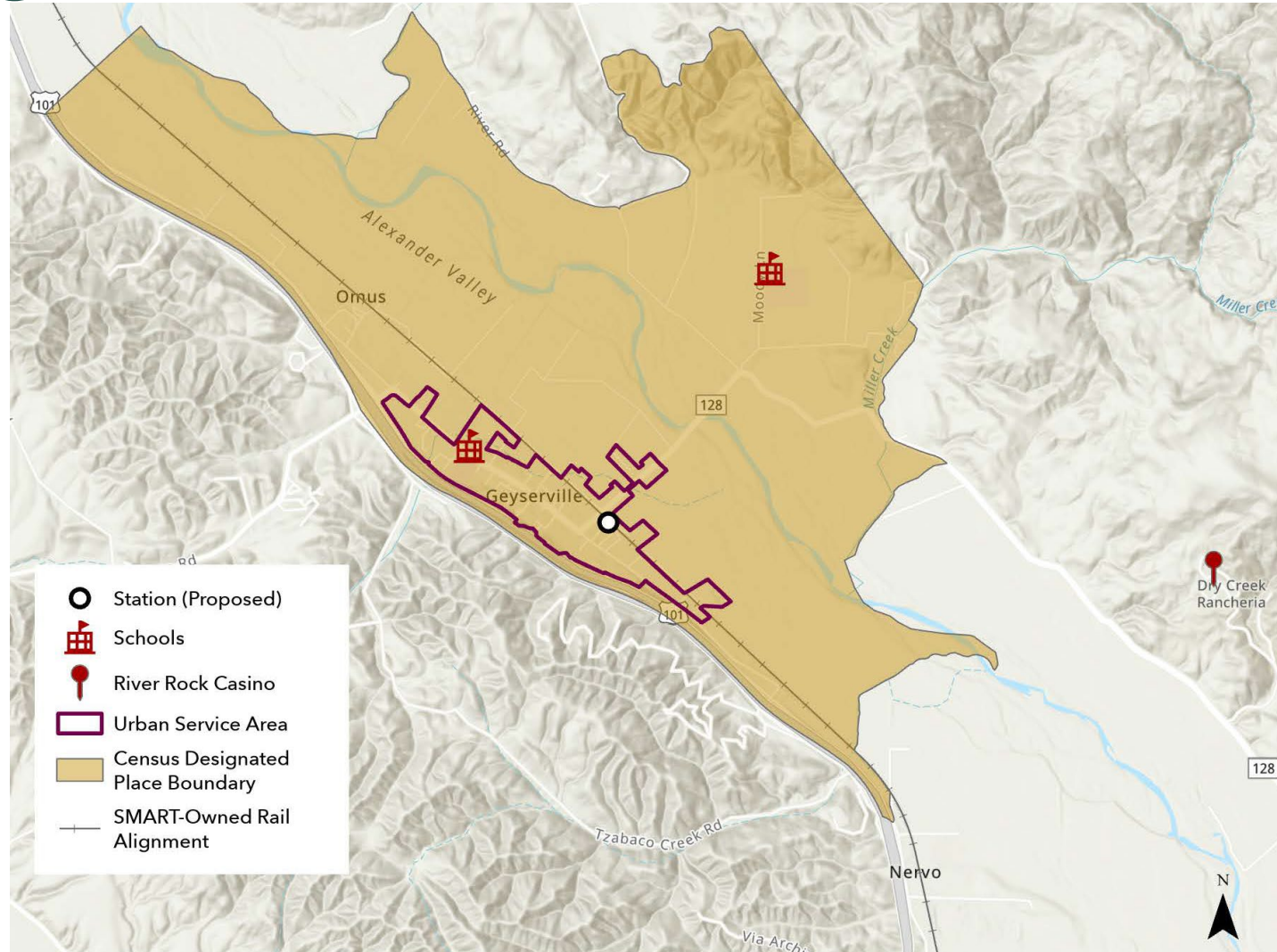
# Recommendation

1. Receive an update on the outreach efforts and receive the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption determination for the proposed Geyserville Station;
2. Adopt Resolution 2026-26 adopting the Geyserville Station Project into SMART's program and approving the Project;
3. Direct staff to file the CEQA notice of exemption; and
4. Direct staff to request the Geyserville Station be amended into relevant local, regional, state, and federal plans.

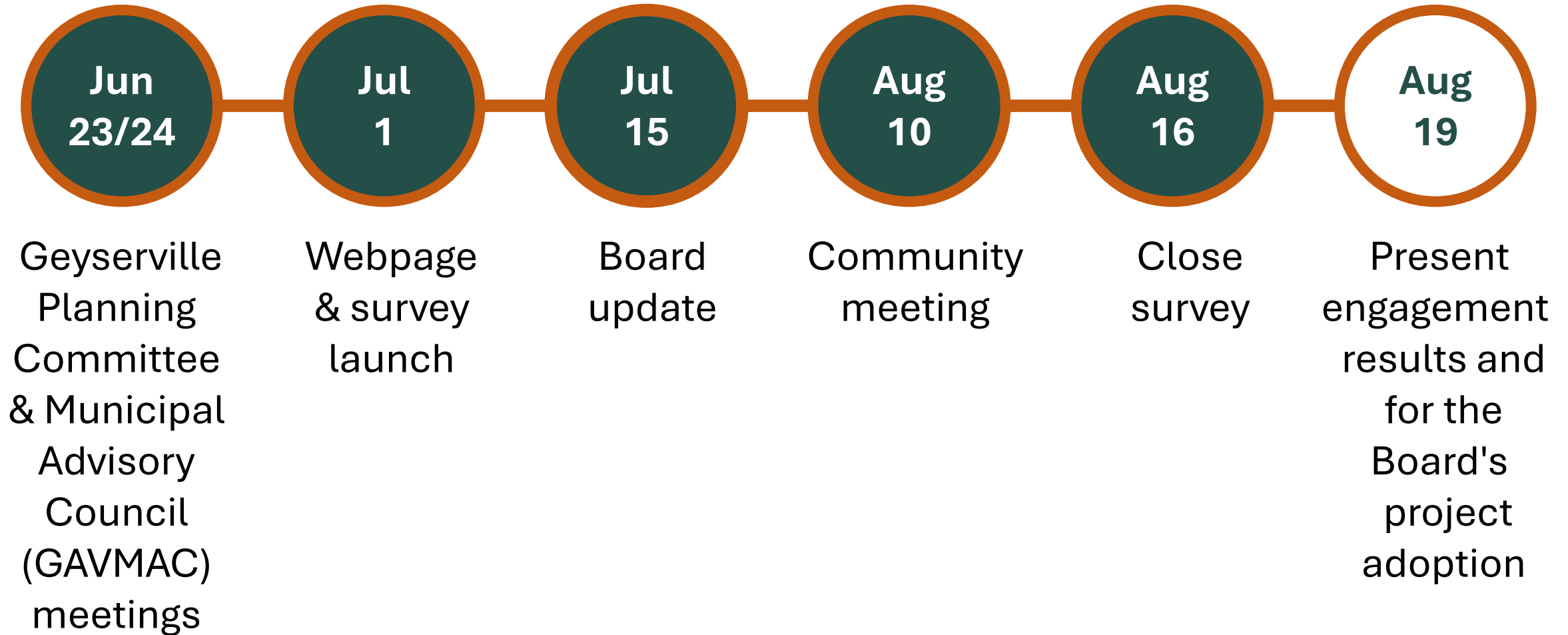


# About Geyserville

- Geyserville is a Census Designated Place (CDP)
- Geyserville CDP population is 861 (2020 Census)
- Within the CDP, there are 1,067 jobs (2023 Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics)
- The proposed station is located within the Urban Service Area
  - The Urban Service Area serves as the Urban Growth Boundary for Geyserville



# Engagement opportunities and timeline



# Engaging the community on a possible Geyserville Station

- Focused discussions with the Board, the community of Geyserville, and the broader public occurred across several forums:
- June 17—SMART Board Meeting
- June 23 — Geyserville Planning Committee Meeting
- June 24 — Geyserville Alexander Valley Municipal Advisory Council Meeting
- July 15 — SMART Board Meeting
- August 10 — SMART's Geyserville Community Meeting



General Manager Cumins presenting at the Geyserville Planning Committee June 23, 2026

# August 10 Community Meeting Recap

- General Manager Cumins gave a brief presentation and addressed comments
- Spanish language translators were available
- Information boards on the proposed station location, station rendering, and pathway alignment were provided
- Staff representing different departments were on hand to answer questions
- 142 people attended (excluding staff)
- A member of the public asked for people in the audience to participate in a hand-poll if they support the station



GM Cumins presenting at the Community Meeting in Geyserville, August 10, 2026

# August 10 Community Meeting Recap

The Press Democrat

Local News | 'It just makes sense': Residents signal support...

- Event was promoted through social media, digital newsletters, printed flyers, and the project website
- Media outlet coverage included the Press Democrat, Marin Independent Journal, SF Chronicle, Healdsburg Tribune, Bay Area TV broadcast news, and North Bay radio stations

## 'It just makes sense': Residents signal support for proposed Geyserville SMART station



Geyserville residents raise their hands when asked if they support a SMART train station during a community forum in Geyserville on Monday, August 10, 2026. (Christopher Chung/The Press Democrat)

# Geyserville Public Survey

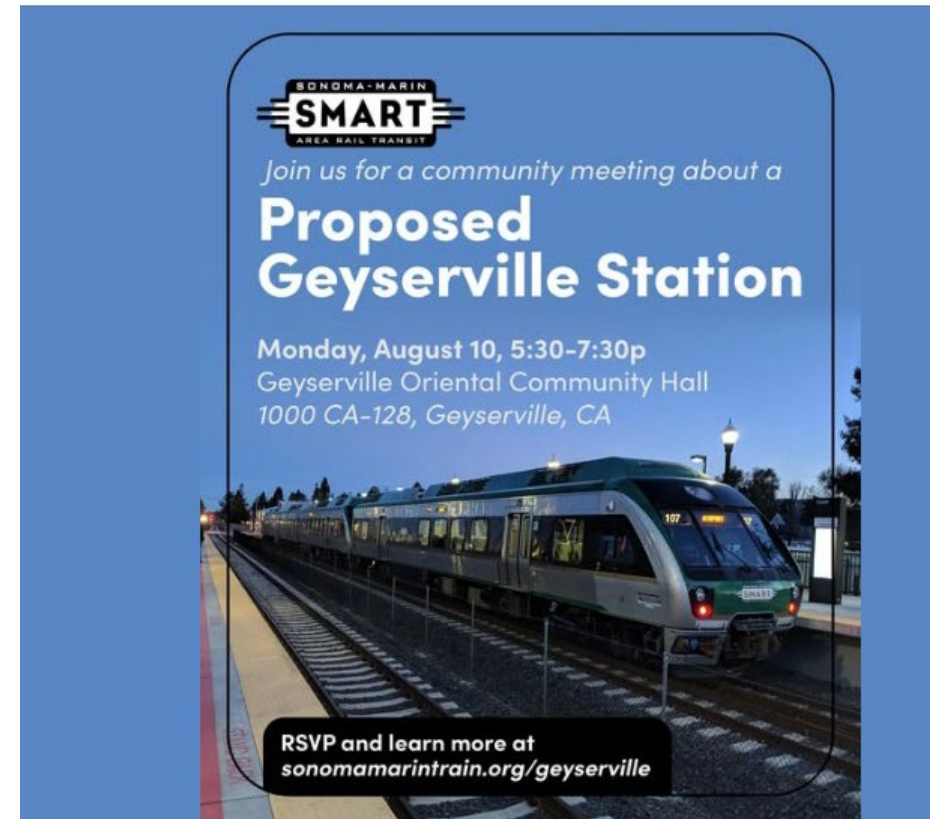
- SMART posted an online survey between July 1 and August 16
- In English and Spanish
- Hardcopies were available at the community event
- 797 responses received, 9 in Spanish and 698 in English
- The survey was promoted via social media, digital newsletter, printed flyers, and the project website



Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit

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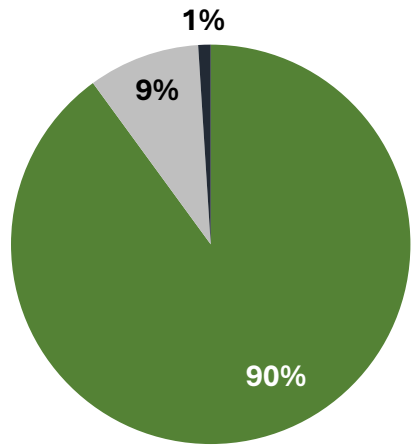
SMART is evaluating a proposed new passenger rail station in Geyserville and invites the community to learn more and share their ideas.... [See more](#)



# Summary of Survey Results

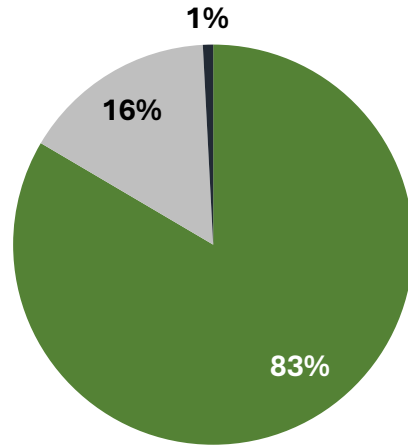
## Should SMART add a station in Geyserville?

All respondents



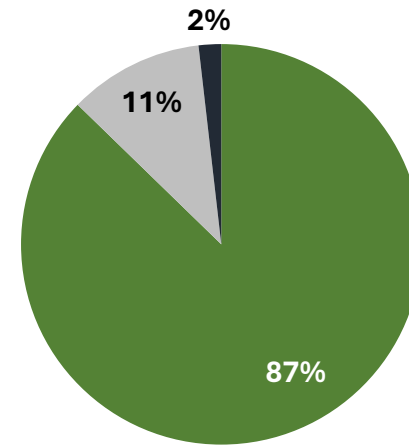
■ Yes ■ No ■ No Response

Geyserville residents



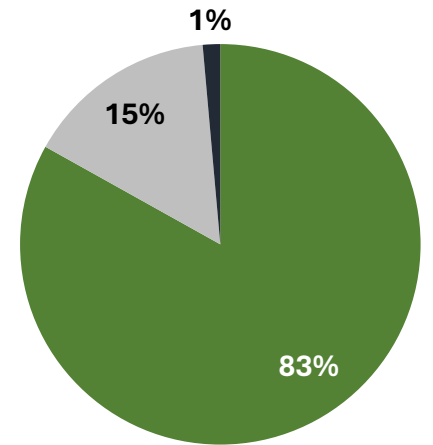
■ Yes ■ No ■ No Response

Geyserville workers



■ Yes ■ No ■ No Response

Cloverdale residents



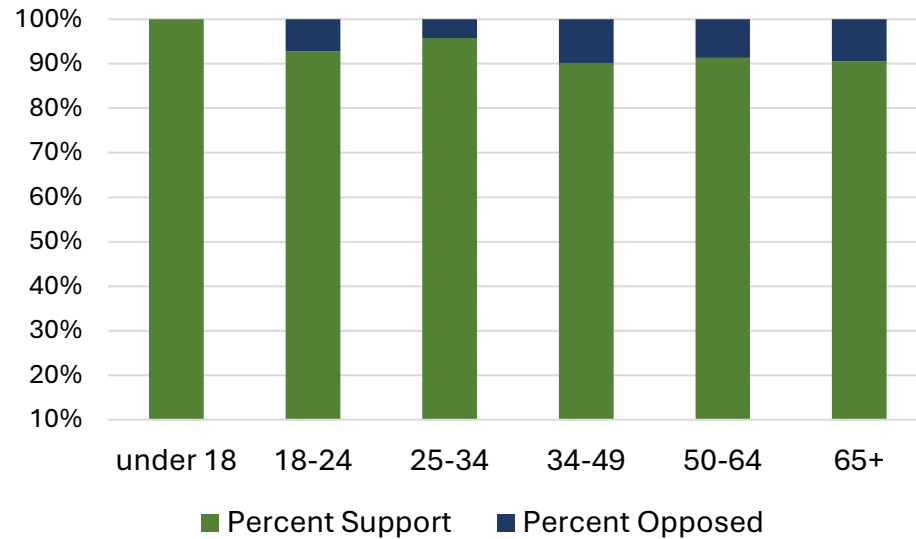
■ Yes ■ No ■ No Response

**Overwhelming support for adding a station in Geyserville**

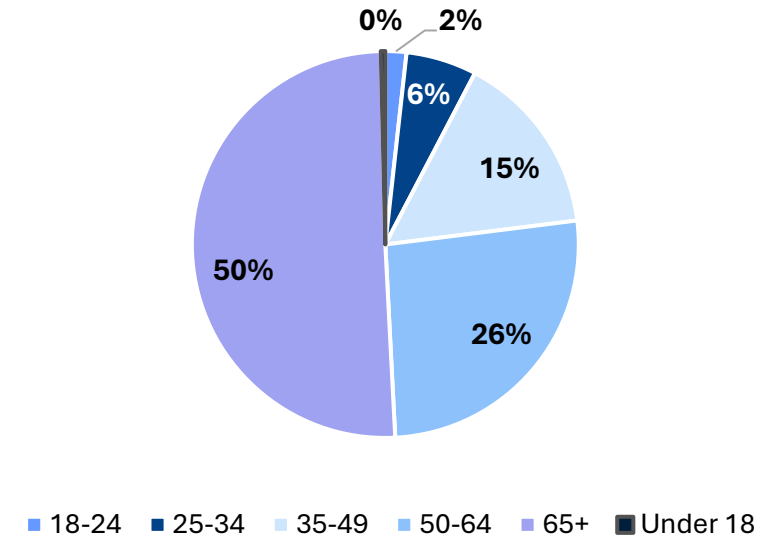
# Summary of Survey Results

## Should SMART add a station in Geyserville?

Support by age demographic



Respondents by age



**High level of support (90% or greater) for adding a station across all age demographics**

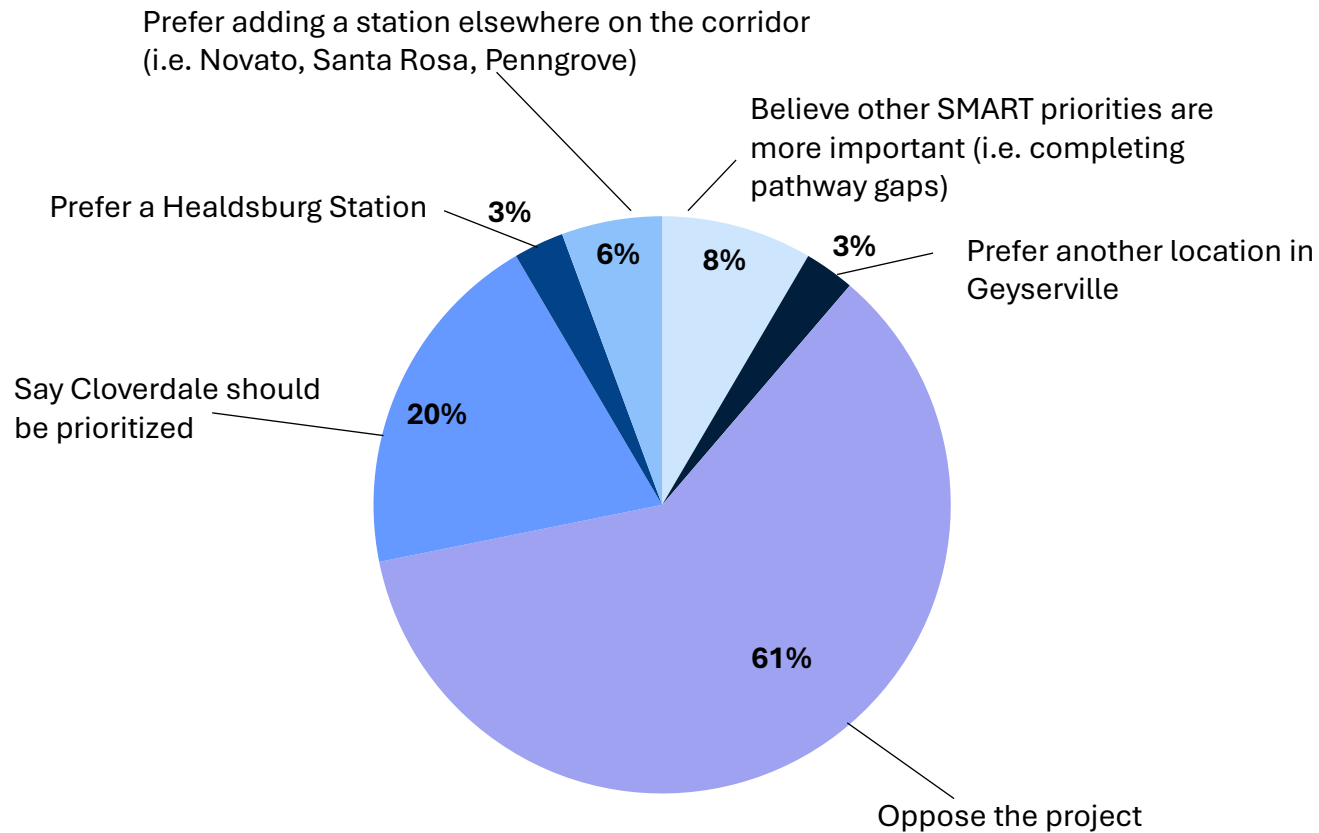
# Summary of Survey Results



## Should SMART locate the station at Hwy 128 and Remmel Rd.?

- 88% of all respondents support the proposed location
- 90% of respondents residing in Geyserville agreed with the location
- 12% of total respondents disagreed with the station location

# Summary of Survey Results



## Should SMART locate the station at Hwy 128 and Remmel Rd.?

- Within the 12% of total respondents that disagreed with the station location, 61% opposed the project outright (5% of all respondents)
- 20% of those disagreeing with the location say Cloverdale's station should instead be prioritized

# Summary of Survey Results

**If you were able to connect to Geyserville via a SMART station, where would you travel to or from?**

- Many of the areas identified by respondents have an established and strong travel demand pattern already
- Adding a rail connection would provide a transit alternative for this existing travel market

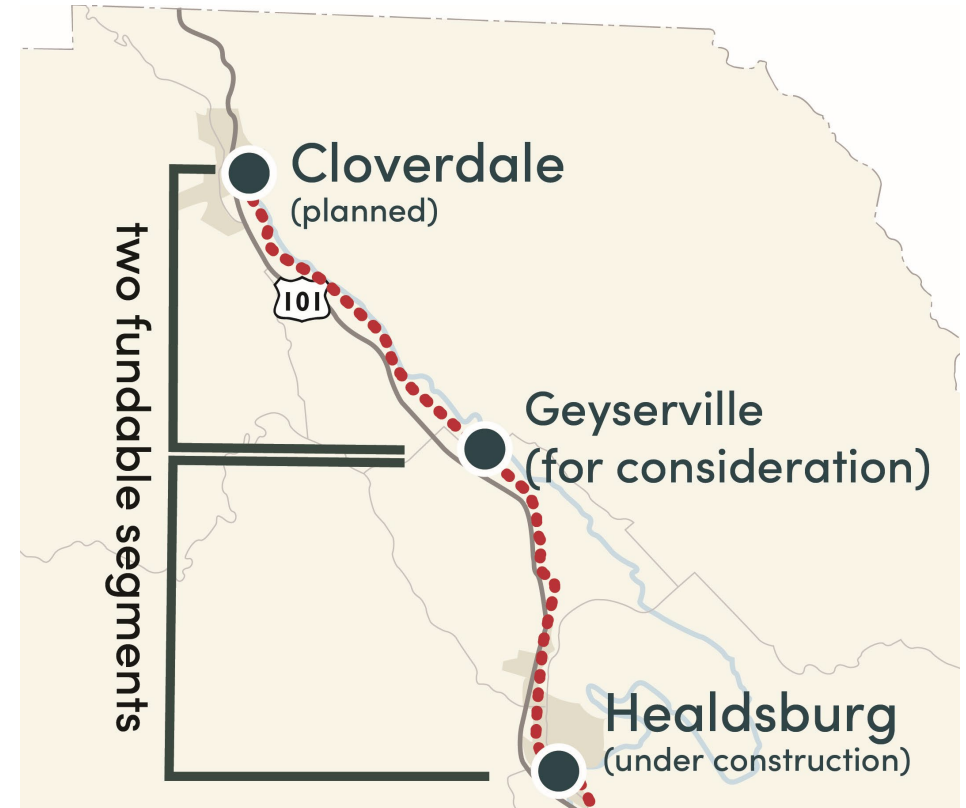
| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Cloverdale            | 23.42%    |
| Healdsburg            | 33.38%    |
| Windsor               | 24.63%    |
| Sonoma County Airport | 26.24%    |
| Santa Rosa North      | 16.96%    |
| Santa Rosa Downtown   | 36.88%    |
| Rohnert Park          | 12.11%    |
| Cotati                | 9.42%     |
| Petaluma North        | 8.61%     |
| Petaluma Downtown     | 20.59%    |
| Novato San Marin      | 5.65%     |
| Novato Downtown       | 7.54%     |
| Novato Hamilton       | 6.19%     |
| Marin Civic Center    | 7.67%     |
| San Rafael            | 16.96%    |
| Larkspur              | 27.19%    |
| San Francisco Area    | 27.86%    |

# Equity and Demographic Considerations

- 63% of the population is white-alone (2024 American Communities Survey (ACS))
- 36% is non-white or more than one race (2024 ACS)
- 34% of the population are Hispanic or Latino (2024 ACS)
- The ethnic and racial demographics in Geyserville are proportional to SMART's two-county district, where 63% of the population is white, and 36% nonwhite
- The proportion of households in Geyserville (26.5%) with a household income of \$50,000 or lower is greater relative to the proportion in SMART's two-county district (20.5%)

# Business Case- Project Rationale and Objectives

- A Geyserville station would:
  - Allow train access for residents, workers, and visitors to Geyserville.
  - Maximize the utility of the rail system without harming railroad operations
  - Make more trips on the pathway between Cloverdale, Geyserville, and Healdsburg possible
  - Segment the delivery of the extension between Healdsburg and Cloverdale, creating more opportunities to secure grant funding to complete the system



*A station fulfills SMART's strategic objectives: 1) complete the system to Cloverdale, 2) maximize the benefit and usefulness of the system, and 3) effectively connect communities along the corridor to offer a transit alternative to Highway 101*

# Other Business Case Considerations

- A station would provide a rail alternative to both the existing and future travel markets between Geyserville and communities on the corridor
  - 40% of the workforce coming into Geyserville from outside the area are coming from places on SMART's corridor— Santa Rosa (15%), Cloverdale (9%) Healdsburg (8%) and the Town of Windsor (8%).
- The established travel market increases the potential for mode shift from car onto rail, reducing vehicle miles travelled and trip generated CO2
  - Each trip taken by SMART instead of driving reduces trip CO2 emissions by 36%.
- A station would improve access to education, jobs, affordable housing, and healthcare
  - Nearest healthcare facilities are located in Cloverdale and Healdsburg
  - Makes employment, education and other opportunities more accessible to Geyserville residents
- Supports economic impact by increasing business reach to a broader customer base and employee pool

# CEQA Determination

- The Project is statutorily exempt under Section 21080.25(b)(6)(A) A public project for the improvement, institution, or increase of passenger rail service, other than light rail service eligible under paragraph (5), including the maintenance, construction, or rehabilitation of stations
- The Project meets all the following conditions of the exemption:
  - It will be led by a public agency
  - It is within existing public right-of-way
  - It will be exclusively used by certified Tier 4 locomotives
  - It is located within the North Coast Air Basin, which is in attainment for particulate matter and ozone
  - It does not induce single-occupancy vehicle trips, add additional highway lanes, or capacity
  - It does not require the demolition of affordable housing units
  - The project cost is under \$50,000,000
- In meeting the conditions of the statutory exemption, the Board must certify that the project will be completed by a skilled and trained workforce

# Recommendation

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2. Adopt Resolution 2026-26 adopting the Geyserville Station Project into SMART's program and approving the Project;
3. Direct staff to file the CEQA notice of exemption; and
4. Direct staff to request the Geyserville Station be amended into relevant local, regional, state, and federal plans.

# Next Steps

- Upon board approval of the project, staff will file the Notice of Exemption
- We will work with local and regional partners to incorporate the Geyserville Station into the relevant local, regional, state and federal plans, including Plan Bay Area.
- We will continue to pursue grant funding opportunities to complete the system to Cloverdale, inclusive of a Geyserville Station.
- We will continue to develop working outreach and communication networks for diverse populations across the Alexander Valley and the Geyserville community

# Questions?