



MEDIA ADVISORY

Rail grinding and maintenance activities in San Rafael

April 13, 2016

In preparation for passenger service, SMART will begin conditioning the railroad tracks in San Rafael utilizing a rail grinding train. Rail grinding will be followed by scrubbing to maintain the condition of the rail from downtown San Rafael to Civic Center Drive. Rail grinding will occur **Friday, April 15 through Friday, April 22, 2016**. Work hours are: **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., 4th Street to Mission Avenue**; and **7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mission Avenue to Civic Center Drive**. Schedules are subject to change.

Rail grinding will be performed by a 60 foot, three-car train that will move along the railroad tracks at a speed of 3-5 mph. Businesses and residents can expect some noise and sparks. Flaggers will be utilized at railroad crossings, and there will be a water tank crew following the grinder.

Rail scrubbing will follow and will occur nightly from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

SMART has started systemwide testing along the initial 43-mile route, from downtown San Rafael to the northern part of Santa Rosa. SMART's testing includes running trains, operating railroad crossing gates at intersections and verifying that our train control and communications systems are accurate and working effectively.

In the interest of safety, the public is advised to:

- Be prepared to stop at railroad crossings, even when trains are not visible. SMART is testing crossing gates with and without trains.
- When driving, never stop on the tracks and never race a train.

For ongoing updates on testing, please visit the SMART website at: www.sonomamarintrain.org.

For more information, call: (707) 794-3330, or email us at: info@sonomamarintrain.org.

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