



For Immediate Release
Contact: Jeanne Mariani-Belding
Direct: 707-794-3063
Cell: 707-694-4402

January 4, 2017

Debora Fudge selected to lead SMART Board of Directors

Members of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) Board of Directors have selected Debora Fudge as the new chairwoman of the 12-member board. Fudge, who was elected during Wednesday's board meeting to replace outgoing chairwoman Judy Arnold, will lead the agency into the start of its passenger rail service slated to begin in late spring.

"Debora Fudge is an excellent choice to lead the SMART Board as we prepare for passenger service," said Arnold, who is also a Marin County Supervisor. "She has the right vision and commitment to help SMART move into operations, and to continue that momentum as we build the Larkspur extension, and expand further north to Windsor, Healdsburg and Cloverdale."

Fudge, who is currently mayor of the Town of Windsor and has served on its Town Council for 20 years, said she is honored to accept her latest leadership role on the SMART Board.

"This is an exciting time for SMART and for our community as we prepare to open our doors to the public," Fudge said. "I plan to build on the solid foundation that our previous chairwoman, Judy Arnold, has provided. This is a strong board, and working with SMART's staff, we will deliver excellent passenger rail service and a multi-use pathway that we can all be proud of."

In addition to the selection of Fudge to fill the top post, the board also named Kate Sears as its new vice chairwoman. Sears also serves as a Marin County Supervisor. Both Fudge and Sears will serve two-year terms effective immediately.

For more information about SMART visit www.SonomaMarinTrain.org.

###