



For Immediate Release

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**SMART Board of Directors approve free introductory service for a limited period, plus
a new monthly pass**

Members of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) Board of Directors gave the green light for free introductory service for a limited time when service begins in late spring, offering the public a chance to try the Bay Area’s newest passenger rail system at no cost.

The free period will run through the July 4 holiday. SMART will then offer 50 percent discounted rates through the September 4 Labor Day holiday. Regular fares will go into effect on September 5.

The Board also approved a new fare product: a monthly 31-day pass at a rate of \$200 per month with unlimited use during that period. Seniors, youth, and passengers with disabilities will receive a 50 percent discounted rate for the monthly pass, paying \$100 per month.

“We are looking forward to offering people the opportunity to try our new service free of charge for a limited time,” said SMART Board Chairwoman Debora Fudge. “Once people experience what the SMART train has to offer — a safe, reliable and congestion-free transportation option— we’re confident they’ll get on board.”

The addition of the monthly pass rounds out several fare options for SMART passengers, including an Eco-Pass that is purchased directly from SMART by employers, colleges, or other institutions such as veterans’ groups, at discounts of up to 50 percent. The Eco-Pass offers unlimited use for up to a year and can be purchased in four, six or 12-month installments.

Regular SMART fares are based on the distance traveled, and surveys show that most people will travel two or three zones. The regular one-way fare is \$3.50, plus \$2 for each additional zone traveled. SMART fares also include several discount options, including 50 percent off for seniors 65 and older, youth between the ages of 5 and 18, and passengers with disabilities.

SMART passengers will use Clipper cards, the same form of payment used by transit agencies throughout the Bay Area, ensuring a smooth and seamless commute.

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

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