

Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District

General Manager's Report – JULY 2019

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🎊 🏂 SMART || SONOMA-MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Marin County Fair took place at the Marin Civic Center Fairgrounds from Wednesday, July 3 through Sunday, July 7, drawing thousands of attendees from all over the North Bay. Many chose to leave the car at home and take the SMART train, including a considerable number of first-time riders and families from both Marin and Sonoma counties. SMART partnered with the Marin County Fair to provide a late-night train run that departed the Marin Civic Center at 10:30 p.m. each night of the

fair. Fairgoers were thrilled that SMART was able to provide late service allowing them to stay for the fireworks.

The outreach team took the opportunity to engage with North Bay residents at SMART's booth in the Global Marketplace, encouraging them to follow us on social media and subscribe to our e-newsletter to stay up to date on SMART's upcoming activities. The Communications and Marketing department has been planning and developing a strategy for the opening of the extension to Larkspur, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. This includes building up our communication channels in order to provide important information to a broader audience.





SMART gathered hundreds of new followers across all of our social media channels during the 5-day Marin County Fair. Here are some of our newest SMART fans!





Since the last SMART Board meeting, outreach staff has participated in the following community events and presentations:

- July 28 | Windsor Farmer's Market Kid's Day Safety Booth (Windsor)
- July 27 | Great Train Days at the Children's Museum of Sonoma County (Santa Rosa)
- July 26 | Group Trip: The Swain Center (Santa Rosa)
- July 16 | Presentation: Friends House (Santa Rosa)
- July 3 July 7 | Marin County Fair (San Rafael)



Community Outreach | Safety Education and Awareness

The Communications and Marketing team took a critical look at our current safety outreach initiatives, which includes several education programs, events and presentations, and digital safety campaigns, to see where enhancements could be made. In addition to our partnership with Operation Lifesaver, the leading railroad safety organization, safety partnerships will be expanded to include law enforcement officials and organizations in our outreach efforts. Canvassing efforts, such as safety

mailers, will maximize engagement and enforce critical safety messaging, targeting key locations along the alignment.

SMART offers free rail safety presentations to schools and community groups in Marin and Sonoma counties. Presentations are tailored to different age groups, including elementary and high school students, as well as organizations like driving schools and homeless service centers. To request a presentation, visit <u>http://betracksmart.org/rail-safety-education/</u>.

SMART participates in about 100 events and presentations a year, and railroad safety is an essential part of all of its messaging.



MARKETING

Marketing Programs | Kids Ride Free on Weekends

Kids ages 18 and under can ride the SMART train for free on weekends and holidays, through Labor Day, Monday, September 2. The summer pilot program lets youth ride free, when accompanied by a paying adult. There is no limit to the number of youth riders each adult can bring. Weekend and holiday parking at SMART lots is also free during this summer promotion.

Families enjoyed the opportunity to bring their children on board for free during the Fourth of July holiday and during the weekend of the Marin County Fair. Thank you to Renée Wright Photography for this great photo!

Marketing Programs | Advertising Sales



SMART's successful onboard and station advertising



program reached another milestone—with more than \$1 million in advertising space sold to date. SMART's advertisers include some of the North Bay's most recognizable companies. Including Clover Sonoma, Bank of Marin, Redwood Credit Union and Kaiser Permanente.

Digital Programs | Social Media

SMART has prioritized safety messaging across all of our social media channels. Content on social media includes a range of safety topics such as trespass prevention, crossing safety, platform safety, knowledge of railroad crossing signs and signals, and more.

SMART's progress is also a favorite among social media followers. The most popular post on Facebook during July was a set of aerial photos showing the progress of SMART construction in downtown San Rafael, as part of the extension to Larkspur. Thank you to Tom Rennie for sharing these photos! You can view the pictures on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/sonomamarintrain/.



Media | News Coverage

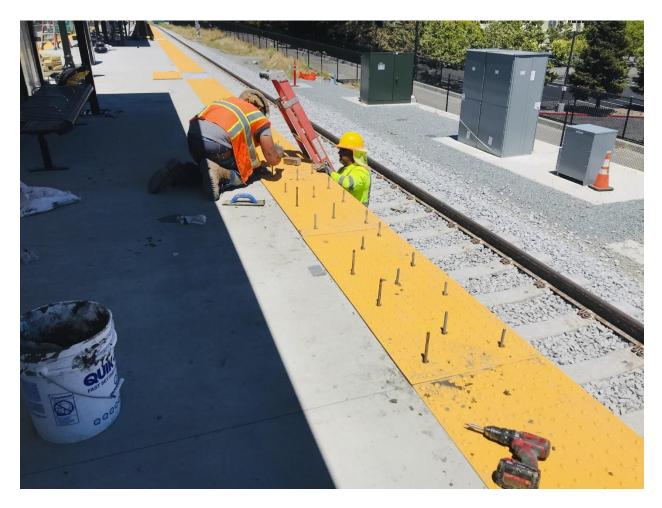
- July 22, SMART could face challenge seeking tax extension without dates for Healdsburg, Cloverdale stations (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 22, CA: Rohnert Park considers banning overnight parking near busy SMART crossing (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 22, Rohnert Park considers banning overnight parking near busy SMART crossing (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 18, Interview: Debora Fudge (KSRO Radio Channel 1350)
- July 18, Interview: Farhad Mansourian (KSRO Radio Channel 1350)
- July 17, SMART to build more safety barriers after recent train-related deaths (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 17, SMART rail agency spearheading suicide-prevention effort to curtail train deaths (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 17, Preventing SMART train pedestrian deaths in the North Bay (KRON TV Channel 4)
- July 17, SMART leaders to recent string of deaths along tracks (KPIX CBS Channel 5)
- July 17, SMART train board to discuss spate of pedestrian deaths (KPIX CBS Channel 5)
- July 17, SMART train board to discuss spate of recent pedestrian deaths (Napa Valley Register)
- July 16, SMART chief calls for community effort to end streak of train-related deaths (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 16, Third person killed by SMART train in less than a week identified (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 15, Man struck, killed by SMART train in Santa Rosa identified (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 15, Update: Pedestrian killed in collision with SMART train Monday (SF Gate)
- July 15, *Pedestrian hit by SMART train in Rohnert Park* (KTVU Fox Channel 2)
- July 15, SMART train strikes pedestrian near Rohnert Park (SFBay.ca)
- July 15, Fifth person hit killed by SMART train in Sonoma County (Rohnert Park-Cotati Patch)
- July 14, Marin Transit says ride-booking service is underperforming (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 14, SMART reconsiders 'quiet zones' amid spate of deaths (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 13, Marin officials mull\$100 billion transportation mega-measure idea (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 13, SMART considers role of quiet zones after recent deaths (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)

- July 12, Pedestrian killed by SMART train in Santa Rosa (KNTV NBC channel 11)
- July 12, Pedestrian killed by SMART train Friday afternoon (SF Gate)
- July 12, Man killed by SMART train in Santa Rosa second person to die this week on the tracks (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 11, Man facing sexual abuse charges killed by SMART train north of Rohnert Park (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 11, Man who killed himself under train faced child sex charges (KXTV ABC channel 10)
- July 11, NorCal caregiver accused of sexually abusing disabled children kills himself on train tracks (KTLA Channel 5, Los Angeles)
- July 11, CA: SMART installs train crossing safety upgrade at deadly Rohnert Park crossing (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 10, Man struck by SMART train after intentionally lying across tracks (KTVU Fox Channel 2)
- July 10, Caregiver facing charges ID'd in suspected suicide by SMART train (Rohnert Park-Cotati Patch)
- July 10, Care home operator accused of child sexual abuse kills himself on SMART train tracks (KPIX CBS Channel 5)
- July 10, Man struck by SMART train Tuesday died by suicide (SF Gate)
- July 10, Pedestrian struck, killed by SMART train in Santa Rosa (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 10, Man facing sexual abuse charges killed by SMART train north of Rohnert Park (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 7, CA: SMART takes steps toward building campaign for early sales-tax renewal in March 2020 (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 6, SMART takes steps toward building campaign for early sales-tax renewal in March 2020 (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 2, Union: SMART needs more safety officers (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 2, San Rafael completes first leg of bike path to Larkspur (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 2, PD Editorial: Safe rail crossings are up to SMART and pedestrians (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 2, Petaluma man who died after being struck by SMART train Friday identified (SF Gate)
- July 1, SMART, Rohnert Park explore changes to railroad crossing after two deaths in two days (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)

- July 1, SMART chief pledges to consider more rail safety measures following two deaths on tracks (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- June 29, SMART chief pledges to consider more rail safety measures following two deaths on tracks (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- June 28, Another pedestrian killed by SMART train (KSRO Radio, AM 1350)
- June 28, Train strikes bicyclist in Rohnert Park, second time in as many days (KTVU Fox 2)
- June 28, SMART train hits, kills bicyclist in Rohnert Park; 2nd fatal incident in same intersection (KPIX Chanel 5, CBS SF Bay Area)
- June 28, Update: bicyclist dies in second fatal SMART train collision in two days (SF Gate)
- June 28, Second person in two days struck, killed by SMART train in Rohnert Park (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- June 28, Bicyclist fatally struck by SMART train in Rohnert Park (Rohnert Park Patch)
- June 28, Person hit by train, second in two days (SF Gate)
- June 28, Union: SMART needs more safety officers (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- June 27, Officials say woman tried to run across tracks when killed by train (sfbay.ca)
- June 27, Pedestrian struck, killed by SMART train in Rohnert Park (Rohnert Park Patch)
- June 27, Woman killed by SMART train tried to run across the tracks (KNTV, Channel 11, NBC Bay Area)
- June 27, Person struck by SMART train Thursday morning (SF Gate)
- June 27, Woman struck and killed by SMART train in Rohnert Park Identified by police (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- June 22, Editorial: Novato SMART stop downtown makes sense (North Bay Business Journal)
- June 22, Editorial: Novato SMART stop downtown makes sense (North Bay Business Journal)
- June 20, Bike-share system coming to SMART stations by next spring (Sonoma Index Tribune)

LARKSPUR EXTENSION PROJECT

- Track construction is wrapping up.
- Work at the Larkspur Station consists of constructing the parking lot and installing station amenities.
- Construction of the City of San Rafael Multi Use Pathway from Rice Drive to Andersen Drive is completed and was opened to the public on July 16th.
- Train control and communications systems installation work is ongoing with the installation of warning gates, signal houses and signals.
- Train testing is planned to begin next month.



Larkspur Station Construction – platform edge warning tile installation





Larkspur Station- Bicycle Locker Installation



Track Construction- Placing Ballast



Unnamed Channel- Removal of Channel Debris



2nd Street, San Rafael - Pedestrian Channelization Fence



Francisco Boulevard - Gate Arm Installation

WINDSOR EXTENSION PROJECT

- SMART will receive the final proposal from three pre-qualified contractors in mid-August.
- Environmental permit is underway.



Windsor Extension-Looking South at the Windsor River Road Crossing

PATHWAY

Payran to Southpoint Multi-Use Pathway

- Temporary Fence Installed along the alignment
- Rough grading will be completed in July
- Pedestrian bridge abutment construction is underway.
- Existing pile removal and streambed mitigation clean-up started in July



Pedestrian Bridge Construction over Petaluma River



Existing Pile Removal From the Petaluma River

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

- Installation of pedestrian channelizing fence have been completed for the following locations:
 - a) Golf Course Drive (Rohnert Park)
 - b) Payran Street (Petaluma)
 - c) Southpoint Boulevard (Petaluma)
 - d) Caulfield Lane (Petaluma)
- The contractor started the installation of pedestrian safety measures at 11 locations in Santa Rosa on July 24th.



Caulfield Lane, Petaluma- Pedestrian Channelizing Fence



Pyran Street, Petaluma - Pedestrian Channelizing Fence



South Point Boulevard, Petaluma - Pedestrian Channelizing Fence



Golf Course Drive, Rohnert Park - Pedestrian Channelizing Fence



Signs posted along SMART's right-of-way

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Safety and security staff responded and investigated the five deaths in Sonoma County. Each of these incidents warrants a SMART investigation to determine if any improvements in our internal processes can be done. Additionally, staff works closely with the law enforcement agencies to complete the investigation.

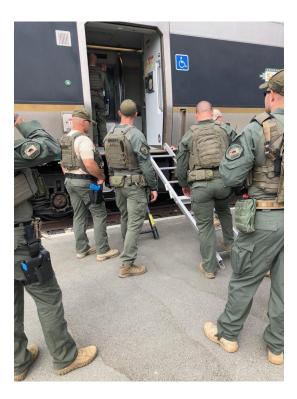
SMART is working with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office and a private security company to provide extra patrols along the SMART right-of-way.

SMART participates in a monthly Transportation Security Administration conference call. This call is nationwide to transportation agencies to discuss industry trends, best practices and security issues. Chief McGill presented to the group to discuss the past few weeks and series of deaths. Agencies offered feedback and data on suicides.

Debriefs for each incident are scheduled with the SMART staff that were involved in each train death. These debriefs are conducted to discuss lessons learned and ways to improve SMARTs response.

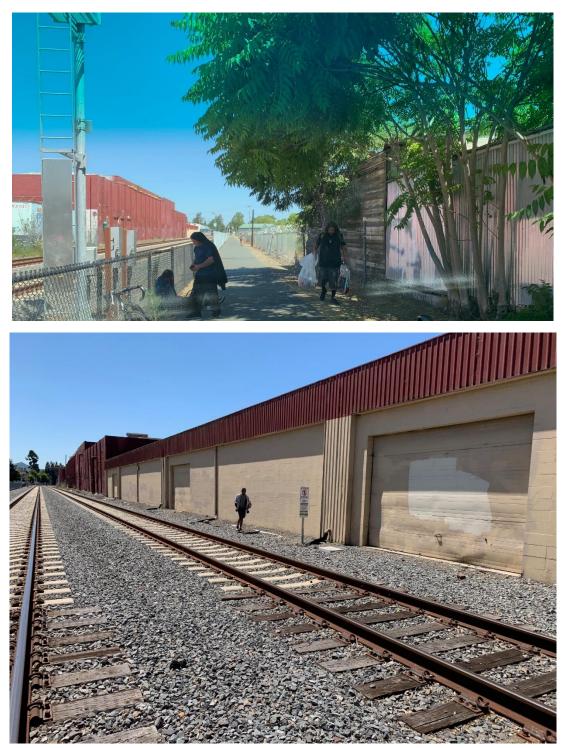
Staff attended the following meetings: Sonoma County Chiefs of Police, Sonoma County Fire Districts, Marin County Fire Prevention Officers and Sonoma County Fire Prevention officers.

Sonoma County Sheriff's Department SWAT team trained at the Rail Operations Center on tactical entry of the train. Approximately 20 deputies trained throughout the day.





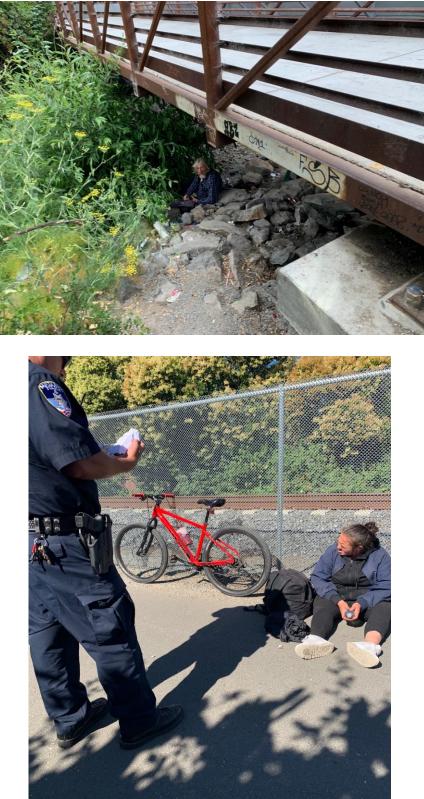
The pathways in Santa Rosa continue to be an issue for loitering and blocking the pathway. Code Compliance routinely addresses these groups to move along.



A teenager was contacted for trespassing on SMART property in Santa Rosa, he was moved along by Code Compliance.



The bridge in Santa Rosa continues to be an issue attracting homeless. Many times, throughout the month code compliance has moved trespassers sleeping under the bridge.



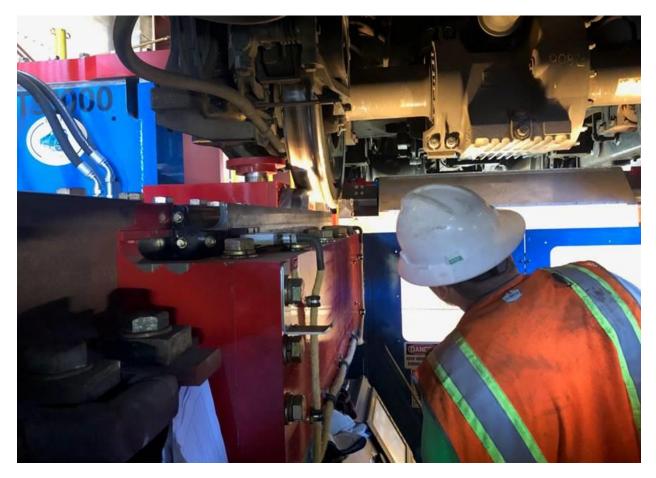
The below female was caught vandalizing SMART's fence in Santa Rosa. She was issued a citation for vandalism by Santa Rosa Police Department.

VEHICLE ENGINEERING

- Cummins and Nippon Sharyo have completed 15 of the 18 engine modifications.
- DMU 110 has arrived at the Rail Operation Center. It will undergo SMART's internal review of all systems prior to being put back into revenue service.



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SMART's wheel truing machine has been installed and begun reprofiling wheels that are worn or have flat spots.



OPERATIONS

MAINTENANCE OF WAY:

- A Signal Technician resigned in July. We have begun interviews to backfill the position.
- Staff is providing on track safety protection this month for the pedestrian safety improvement contractor and their subcontractors.
- We continue to provide Employee-In-Charge protection for the contractor installing signal and trackwork for the new Novato station.
- We began our 2019 track surfacing project with the placement of 2,500 tons of ballast and resurfacing approximately 8000 feet of track to date.
- The Facility Maintenance team completed installation of the "No Smoking" signs at all stations and repainted the pavement arrows in the Novato Hamilton parking lot.
- Vegetation was cleared on the west side of the track from Golf Course Dr. to Scenic to prepare for installation of a new right-of-way fence.

TRANSPORTATION:

- Promoted one Engineer-Conductor to Controller/Supervisor.
- Hired two Conductors in July 2019.
- Conducted Interviews for Engineers-Conductors the week of July 8th.
- Emergency Preparedness Training and Diesel Multiple Unit Emergency Evacuations Training using the window pulls and ladder placement.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

- Replace engineer seat on Diesel Multiple Unit 112 and 101 due to seat back not staying upright position.
- Replaced toilet flush button on Diesel Multiple Unit 111.
- Performed mid-year maintenance on one Diesel Multiple Unit.
- Performed hour oil change on 6 Diesel Multiple Units.
- Performed wheel change out on Diesel Multiple Unit 103 due to flat spots occurring form Diesel Multiple Unit going into emergency.
- Automatic Train Control maintenance performed on 10 Diesel Multiple Units. This maintenance keeps us compliant with Federal Regulatory Association regulations in regards to positive train control.
- Performed fleet inspection on the Diesel Exhaust Fuel system and changed out the filters if they were found to be dirty.
- Performed engine swap, reverse gear replacement and transmission replacement on Diesel Multiple Unit 113.
- Performed wheel truing on 8 axles which allowed us to have our wheels back in service a lot sooner, than sending them to Utah.

REAL ESTATE

PRIVATE CROSSINGS

Staff has researched property records for a private crossing at the request of a property owner on the Brazos Branch that is immediately adjacent to the tracks. Staff has researched property records for private crossings at the request of a large developer south of the Cloverdale Station and immediately adjacent to the tracks.

PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS

Downtown Santa Rosa Station Property - Staff has recorded the deed finalizing the location of a fiber optics easement with Union Pacific Railroad. The fiber optics easement is parallel to the tracks at the Santa Rosa Downtown Station. Staff will continue working with the developer on due diligence issues.

Larkspur Extension Project - Staff is working on a Land Exchange Agreement with the City of San Rafael. Staff is working to finalize the legal descriptions and plats that Land Exchange. The agreement will need to be approved by the City of San Rafael. Staff is continuing to work with Pacific Gas & Electric Company on an aerial easement and on an access to PG&E facilities near the new Larkspur Station.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Leasing:

MB Hospitality (Marriot Hotel)- 90-day lease- Downtown Santa Rosa Railroad Square property Fiberco Inc. (Telecommunications Contractor)- 30-day lease extension was granted until August 8, 2019.

Special Event Completed:

Penngrove Parade – Penngrove – July 7th Fulton Founders Day Celebration – July 13th Ironman Race – Santa Rosa – July 27th

Special Event Requests:

Tour De Fox Wine Country – Santa Rosa – August 24th Juvenile Diabetes Foundations – Santa Rosa – August 24th Ragnar Race – October 25th

Right of Entry Permits Issued:

PG&E – Vegetation trimming/removal extension

PG&E – Pole Replacement – West Robles, Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park Expressway, Rohnert Park PG&E – Gas Line Work – Hopper Street, Petaluma, Piner Road, Santa Rosa, Olive Street, Novato and Windsor Road, Windsor Staff is continuing working on issuing Right of Entry Permits/License with:

Clearheart Drilling – Pot Holing – Windsor River Road

Subtronic Corporation- Boring Activities Windsor Road

Replay Destinations – Soil borings – Healdsburg Station Property

West Coast Solar Company – Solar Project – Lagunitas Brewing – Petaluma

Sonic – Numerous Access Permits issued for work on fiber optics lines.

Metro-MCI - request to connect to Sonic fiber line

COMCAST – Staff is still working to finalize outstanding license agreement fees. Fiber Optic installation verifications in 7 locations. Agreements to be revised.

Marin County Flood Control/City of San Rafael – Clearing of vegetation – Drainage Channel

HUMAN RESOURCES

CURRENT OPEN RECRUITMENTS:

- Engineer-Conductor
- Controller Supervisor
- Signal Technician

INTERVIEWS:

- Controller Supervisor
- Engineer-Conductor
- Rail Information Systems Specialist

New Hires:

One Laborer was hired on July 29, 2019 and two Conductor on July 22nd and July 29th.

LABOR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS:

- Labor Negotiations with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and Operating Engineers Local 3 are ongoing. The contracts expired on June 30, 2019.
- The District has reached tentative agreement with the Teamsters Union, which represents Signal Technicians, Track Maintainers and Bridge Tender staff.
- Human Resources staff attended a workshop for the Sonoma Corps program focused on designing gap year internships for Sonoma Corps participants. The first gap year internships are proposed to begin in June 2020.

GRANTS, LEGISLATION, PLANNING AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

LEGISLATION

SB 742 (Allen): This legislation makes several changes to existing law related to operation of intercity rail feeder bus service. This SB 742 legislation would remove an existing restriction limiting intercity rail feeder bus service to passengers solely connecting to and from an Amtrak Intercity Rail service in California. In other words, currently people are only allowed to purchase a ticket on an Amtrak Thruway Intercity Rail feeder bus if they are also purchasing an Amtrak Intercity Rail ticket for the same journey. In the SMART corridor, the Amtrak Route 7 feeder bus travels between McKinleyville and Petaluma onward through Napa and Vallejo to Martinez at the Amtrak rail station. The SMART Board unanimously supported this bill and that support was communicated in a letter to the bill author on May 16, 2019. The bill passed from the Senate 37-0 and is currently in the Assembly, where it was referred from the Transportation Committee to the Appropriations Committee on a 15-0 vote on July 8, 2019.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Sonoma County Transportation Authority – Call for Projects for Transportation Plan and Sales Tax Reauthorization: The Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) has issued a Call for Projects, for priority transportation projects seeking inclusion in the SCTA's long range Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP will be updated to provide a list of projects to be included in the next regional plan, Plan Bay Area 2050, and to "document a prioritized list of projects, which will be necessary to program future funding to projects and for potential future sources of funding, including a possible local sales tax measure." The CTP call for projects is being used as an opportunity to identify priority projects that Sonoma County jurisdictions would like to see considered included in a possible sales tax expenditure plan. Up to ten ranked projects of any mode except transit may be submitted per jurisdiction and up to five ranked transit projects may also be submitted. Submittals are due September 4, 2019.

Local Planning Department Notification and Coordination Tracking: SMART Planning staff tracks and reviews all notices sent by local jurisdictions for projects occurring adjacent to or nearby the railroad tracks. To date in 2019 staff has received and reviewed **106** different notices.

SYSTEM ACCESS PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Transit Coordination Meetings:

- July 3, 2019 Staff attended the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) monthly Transit Finance Working group meeting.
- July 9, 2019 Staff attended the monthly MTC-led Means Based Fare Discount Working Group, which hopes to launch an income-based fare program through Clipper in late 2019 or early 2020 on Golden Gate Transit, BART, Muni and Caltrain.
- July 10, 2019 Staff attended Sonoma County Transportation Authority's monthly Transit Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

 July 22, 2019 – Staff hosted a local transit coordination meeting in preparation for the initiation of SMART services to Larkspur.

BICYCLE ACCESS AND PARKING

Bike Share: The Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) and Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) submitted a joint application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to receive a grant to create a bike share system in close proximity to the SMART stations. SCTA and TAM have been jointly managing this program, including the procurement process. An evaluation committee containing representatives from SCTA, TAM, SMART, and local jurisdictions met on Friday May 10 to review all eight proposals that were formally received by SCTA and TAM and to reach a consensus on which vendors to select for interviews. The committee reconvened on Friday, June 21, to interview the finalists and make a selection on which firm to proceed forward with in the creation of a Bike Share system in Sonoma and Marin Counties. Negotiations are underway with the finalists. Conservative estimates are that the program would launch by Spring 2020. SMART will continue to collaborate on program implementation moving forward.

BikeLink™ Lockers: BikeLink installed one additional electronic locker quad on June 20, 2019, at the Novato Hamilton station due to high user demand through the prior year. BikeLink is preparing to launch Clipper Card integrations with their lockers throughout the SMART system. Users will be able to enroll with BikeLink to use their existing Clipper Card to access bike lockers, instead of having to carry and use a separate BikeLink card. BikeLink anticipates launching this Clipper functionality on BikeLink lockers at SMART stations on Monday, August 5, 2019.

BUILD DISCRETIONARY TRANSPORTATION GRANTS:

The Federal Department of Transportation issued a Notice of Funding Availability for \$900 million in competitive BUILD Discretionary Transportation Grants with submittals due July 15, 2019. SMART submitted a request for \$15.9 million of BUILD funds for the Russian River Bridge Rehabilitation and Healdsburg Station project. Letters of Support have been received from Senator Feinstein, Congressman Thompson, Congressman Huffman, SMART's California Legislative Delegation, the City of Cloverdale, the City of Healdsburg, the Town of Windsor, the County of Sonoma, the County of Marin, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, and the Transportation Authority of Marin. Decisions on the program will be announced by November 12, 2019.