



For Immediate Release
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SMART systemwide testing ramps up

In preparation for the start of passenger service, Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) is increasing the frequency of its systemwide testing from the Sonoma County Airport Station to the San Rafael Station. SMART's ongoing safety testing includes running trains at increased speeds, more frequent testing of railroad crossing gates, and track conditioning with a rail scrubber.

SMART's safety testing will include operating trains seven days a week. On weekdays, trains are being tested from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays trains will run from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SMART will also be operating a rail scrubber machine to condition the railroad track from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. in the San Rafael/Novato area. In the remote area near the Redwood Landfill, rail scrubbing will be from 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. The rail scrubber will be towed by an on-rail pickup truck, to reduce disruption and noise.

Safety is SMART's top priority. With increased train speeds and frequency of train movements, drivers and pedestrians should always be alert and aware at all railroad crossing gates. Drivers should never stop on the tracks, and never speed through the crossing gates to beat a train. Pedestrians should never walk on the tracks—walking on the tracks is dangerous, and illegal. For more rail safety tips, visit SMART's safety website at www.BeTrackSmart.org.

For railroad emergencies or to report crossing gates that are not functioning properly, contact SMART at 1-888-412-3330.

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