



SMART

Your train has arrived.

Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District

General Manager's Report – September 2017

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www.SonomaMarinTrain.org



SMART'S GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION



It's Official:

Dignitaries kick off the start of SMART's service with a ribbon cutting ceremony.





SMART Board Chairwoman and Town of Windsor Mayor Debora Fudge opens the ceremony



California Secretary of Transportation Brian Kelly





United States Congressman Jared Huffman



California Senator Mike McGuire with California Assemblymembers Jim Wood and Marc Levine with SMART Board Chairwoman Debora Fudge





Metropolitan Transportation Commission Chairman and SMART Director Jake Mackenzie



SMART Director Fudge introducing Federal Railroad Administration's Regional Administrator James Jordan



Metropolitan Transportation Commission Executive Director Steve Heminger



SMART fans taking in the ceremony



SMART Board Director and Marin County Supervisor Judy Arnold



SMART General Manager Farhad Mansourian





Congressman Jared Huffman with SMART Director Shirlee Zane paint the eye of the Daruma doll



General Manager Farhad Mansourian greets SMART Directors Jim Eddie, Barbara Pahre, Carol Russell and former Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey on inaugural train ride



SMART Board Director Eric Lucan boarding inaugural train ride



Riders on the inaugural run





The crowd begins to gather more than an hour before the event



SMART families share in the special day



A face painter creates SMART train images for kids and adults alike



Preparing for the celebration to begin





Refreshments for the celebration



A mariachi band entertains the crowd



SMART's community outreach team provided information and special SMART items to celebrate the start of full service



Media interviews with future passengers



SMART's Grand Opening cake draws a crowd



Valet bike parking provided by Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition



Hundreds of people attended SMART's Grand Opening Ceremony



Media coverage of the ceremony

Digital Programs | Website | Social Media

The announcement of the start of SMART's passenger service on social media was greeted with much excitement. The Facebook post announcing the launch date is our most popular post in SMART's history, reaching more than 104,000 people. Social media was used heavily to promote the Grand Opening and launch of passenger service, and has been a key component in carrying excitement of our train service in the weeks following the launch. Social media has also been a pivotal part of educating the public about the SMART system and responding to questions and feedback. In the early weeks of service, providing information about schedules, fares, Clipper, transit connections and service alerts have been the primary topics on our social media portals.

Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit Published by Demitrius Handelih [?] · August 17 at 9:51am · 🌐

Your train is arriving: <http://SonomaMarinTrain.org/SMART-Arrival>.

SMART arrival.
August 25, 2017

SONOMA-MARIN SMART AREA RAIL TRANSIT
Reasons to ride.
SonomaMarinTrain.org

104,227 people reached **Boost Post**

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

👍❤️😱 Mike Ragen, Miki Yamashita and 1.1K others Chronological ▾



CONSTRUCTION

PATHWAY:

- The East Cotati Platform to Sonoma Mountain Village pathway is under construction with paving to begin in September.



Pathway construction at the south end of the East Cotati Platform is underway.

FENCING:

- St Vincent Right-of-Way security fence installation is complete.
- Corda Ranch cattle fencing installation is complete.



Right-of-Way fencing at St. Vincent's is complete



Completed right-of-way fencing and gate at St. Vincent's Grade Crossing.

OPERATIONS

MAINTENANCE OF WAY:

- One Signal Technician completed Session 2 of the training program at STS in Kansas City
- Completed installation of Suicide Prevention signs at all crossings
- Completed substantial clean ups in Petaluma at Cedar Grove Crossing, Freeway 101 overpass, south of Payran Street, and Cinnabar Bridge
- Purchased and installed flashing LED stop signs at both ends of the Rail Operations Center Diesel Multiple Unit wash
- Installed 2 recycle cans at each station platform
- Participated in cleanup with City of San Rafael near Andersen Drive
- Qualified two newer Signal Technicians to be EIC's

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

- Opened for revenue service
- Center pin investigation which involved plenty of de-trucking the Diesel Multiple Units. This allowed us to inspect the acoustic irregularities coming from underneath the Diesel Multiple Units
- Applied all proper decals to the exterior and interior of the Diesel Multiple Unit s (i.e. DO NOT RIDE, Door numbers and car numbers)
- Installed hand dryers and toilet seat covers to all Diesel Multiple Unit bathrooms

HUMAN RESOURCES

CURRENT OPEN RECRUITMENTS:

- Engineer-Conductor
- Signal Technician
- Track Maintainer
- Vehicle Maintenance Technician
- Safety and Compliance Officer
- Engineering Intern

INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED:

- Engineer-Conductor
- Signal Technician
- Vehicle Maintenance Technician
- Laborer
- Administrative Analyst
- Accountant

MISCELLANEOUS:

Union negotiations are on-going with the Teamsters and International Association of Machinists and SMART Engineer/Conductors Association (SECA). An agreement was reached with SECA and it will be presented to the Board at the September 20th Board meeting.



REAL ESTATE

PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS:

Larkspur Extension Project – The offer package to purchase land from Golden Gate Bridge and Highway Transportation District for property at the Bettini Transit Center in downtown San Rafael was given to them in May. The Bridge District responded with a very high counter-offer and staff is negotiating with them to determine a final purchase price.

An offer package to purchase land from Golden Gate Bridge and Highway Transportation District, has been completed for property north of the CalPark Tunnel was sent to the agency in June. Staff is continuing to work on moving the transaction forward.

Staff is continuing to work on the details of the property descriptions for the property to be transferred between SMART and the City of San Rafael for the Land Exchange Agreement with the City of San Rafael.

Offer packages were sent two private property owners. Staff is working with the property owners to complete the acquisitions.

Staff is continuing to work on legal descriptions and maps for the offers.

Staff has set up weekly coordination meetings with Pacific Gas & Electric Company for all their utility work that is a part of the project.

Staff is continuing to determine the property rights of the utility companies and the new location of the utilities.

Track work – Research continues on property rights for both SMART and property owners regarding the location of track.

Pathway – Coordinating with the local municipalities regarding securing any necessary land rights to accommodate the construction of the pathways and interim access and laydown area needs.

Received Requests for:

Kaiser Wellness Run – Novato, September 16th, 2017

Water to Vine Half Marathon – Santa Rosa, August 6th, 2017

Fulton Founder's Day – August 12, 2017

Right of Entry Permits Issued:

PG&E – Extended permit to December 31st, 2017 for overhead and underground power connections for new substation in Windsor
Outfront Media – Access Permits were issued for vegetation management for billboards along Highway 37
Healdsburg Round-About Permit – Extended for construction laydown area to September 1st, 2018.
Clipper Card Signage Installation – All Stations
Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) – Permit for the installation of signs.
City of Rohnert Park – Quiet Zone construction work at 3 intersections.
Exaro Technologies – Penngrove – Excavating work for quad gates.
PG&E – Fulton – Paving contract

Staff is continuing working on issuing Right of Entry Permits/License with:

COMCAST – Fiber Optic installation at Airport Boulevard and Aviation Boulevard has been completed and staff is working to issue a License
Marin County Flood Control/City of San Rafael – Clearing of vegetation – Drainage Channel
PG&E – overhead line replacements
PG&E – Vegetation trimming/removal
Lagunitas – West Coast Solar Panel Project

On-Going Property Management Activities:

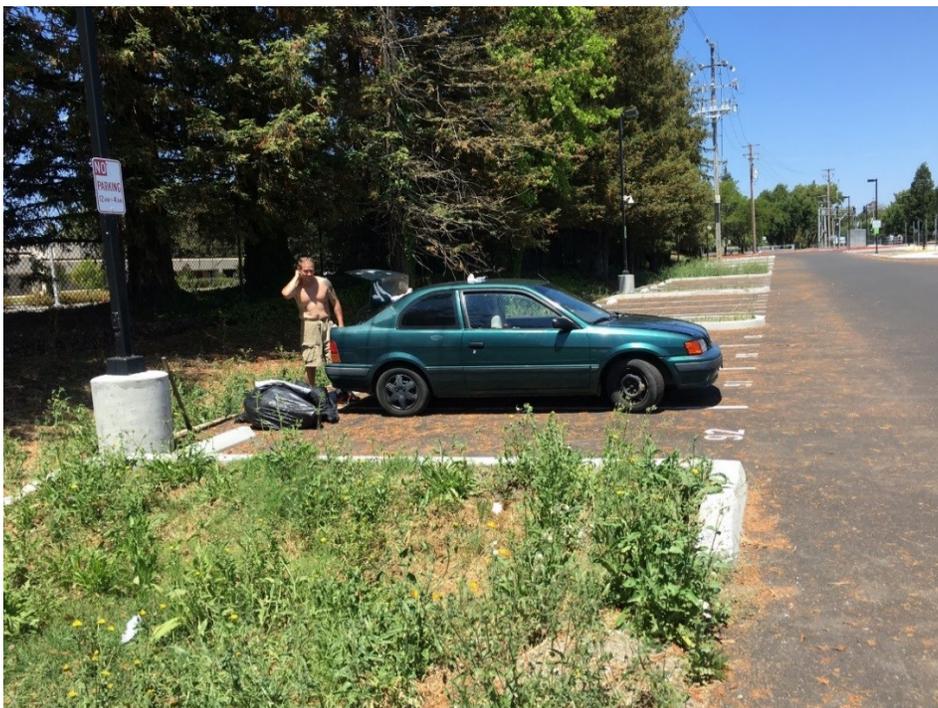
Working on access protocols with Sonoma County Water Agency.
Staff is continuing to work with Pacific Gas & Electric Company to refine access issues.
Refinement of maintenance and insurance issues.
Research of title issues regarding property rights.
Consulting with Engineering on costs.
Consulting with Permitting Agencies on mitigation issues.
Continue to handle property management issues from adjacent landowners.
Continue to support construction by doing property research for discovered property issues.
Research on title issues to clarify property ownerships.
Continue working with property owners to remove encroachments.
Continue to define property ownership issues.
Title reports ordered and being reviewed.
Meetings held with private property owners

SAFETY AND SECURITY

A homeless encampment was located in Santa Rosa. A female contacted and was using a white tarp for cover to sleep under. The female was moved along.



Prior to the beginning of service, the Rohnert Park parking lot had been a popular location for abandoned vehicles, and used as extra parking for the nearby apartment complex.



SMART Code Compliance with the assistance of California Highway Patrol Officers removed a homeless encampment in San Rafael area.



A group of females were consuming alcohol on the Downtown Santa Rosa platform waiting to take the train to a beer festival. The females were cooperative and left the platform.

As a result of a number of complainants and increase of trash on one of the bicycle pathways in Santa Rosa, Code Compliance requested assistance from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office to remove occupants of a camp. The occupants had been asked to leave by Code Compliance for many days and refused to leave.



Train crews called in a report of a trespasser next to the tracks in Santa Rosa. Code Compliance responded and warned the trespasser who stated he was picking blackberries.



While conducting vehicle patrol on the bicycle pathways located in Santa Rosa area, Code Compliance located a trespasser laying in the brush. Upon further investigation, the subject had set up a cooking area using fire to cook food. He removed his camp and left the area.





While patrolling an area in Santa Rosa, Code Compliance was approached by a concerned citizen reporting a homeless camp with a young child seen onsite. Code Compliance, Sonoma County Sheriff and Child Protective Services were notified and attempted contact. The child had been taken to a family member's home prior to contact. The camp was removed. There were plyers found believed to have been used to cut the fence to access the campsite more easily.





During an area check near the Santa Rosa North platform and pathway, a half dressed female was located in the drain pipe. She was asked to put on her clothes and move along.



Several police related incidents along the right of way since start up began. A drunk driver driving down the tracks, a despondent female wandering near the tracks and a vehicle fatality with the vehicle catching fire on the tracks in Novato. Maintenance of Way crews responded immediately to inspect the tracks.





Report of vandalism on Central Instrument Location (Signal House) in Santa Rosa.



We received several reports of camps in the San Rafael (Anderson Drive) area. Staff responded and worked with San Rafael Police to conduct clean ups of the camps.



SMART hosted a roundtable in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Northern California Regional Intelligence Center. Law enforcement agencies from both Marin and Sonoma Counties were in attendance. The goal was to have a broader understanding of rail security and specific reporting procedures.

Over the last month, Code Compliance with the assistance of outside agencies, have arrested four trespassers along the right of way. There was varying degrees of criminal history, drug usage and probation status. All were cited and released.

Staff conducted a training with Windsor Fire and Rincon Valley Fire Department. This was the second training involving wheelchair passenger evacuation. The drill involved a fully electric chair weighing several hundred pounds.



GRANTS AND FEDERAL/STATE AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

LEGISLATION:

Senate Bill 614 (SB614): On September 1, the Governor signed SB614 (Hertzberg), requiring any fines collected from citations for specific transit violations to be deposited with the local transportation agency that issued the citations. This bill also reduces the fine levels for administrative violations and authorizes the use of community service for administrative violations for certain offenders.

UPCOMING GRANTS AND AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Urban Greening Program: On May 1, SMART submitted a grant request to the California Natural Resources Agency's Urban Greening Grant Program for construction funds for the SMART Pathway between Golf Course Drive in Rohnert Park and Todd Road in Santa Rosa. The agency is conducting application reviews and site visits through the summer and anticipates announcing final recommendations in October 2017. SMART has been notified that the project has been selected for a site visit in mid-October. Projects receiving funds will have until May 2020 to complete construction.

Transit and Intercity Capital Program (TIRCP): The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) has issued the Draft 2018 TIRCP Guidelines with final comments due October 5, 2017. The final program guidelines will be published October 13, along with a Call for Projects. Applications will be due January 12, 2018 and CalSTA intends to publish a 5-year allocation plan for TIRCP funds by April 30, 2018.

Bike Share Capital Program: On June 30, the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) submitted a joint application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) requesting funding for a two hundred bicycle system focused around SMART Phase 1 Stations in Sonoma and Marin counties. MTC is expected to make recommendations for this grant in October. If awarded, SCTA and TAM would work to develop further specific details on the project, including ongoing operations funding and bike share station siting.

Active Transportation Program: The passage of Senate Bill 1 (SB1) increases funding for transportation programs including \$100 million per year for the Active Transportation Program (ATP). On June 30, the State issued a Call for Project for the 2017 ATP Augmentation with \$200 million available for Fiscal Years 17/18 and 18/19. SMART submitted the only two SMART-eligible projects, SMART Pathway – Payran to Southpoint in Petaluma and SMART Pathway – McInnis to Smith Ranch in San Rafael. The Petaluma segment was advanced from being funded for construction in 2020 to construction in 2018 and the San Rafael segment was not funded.

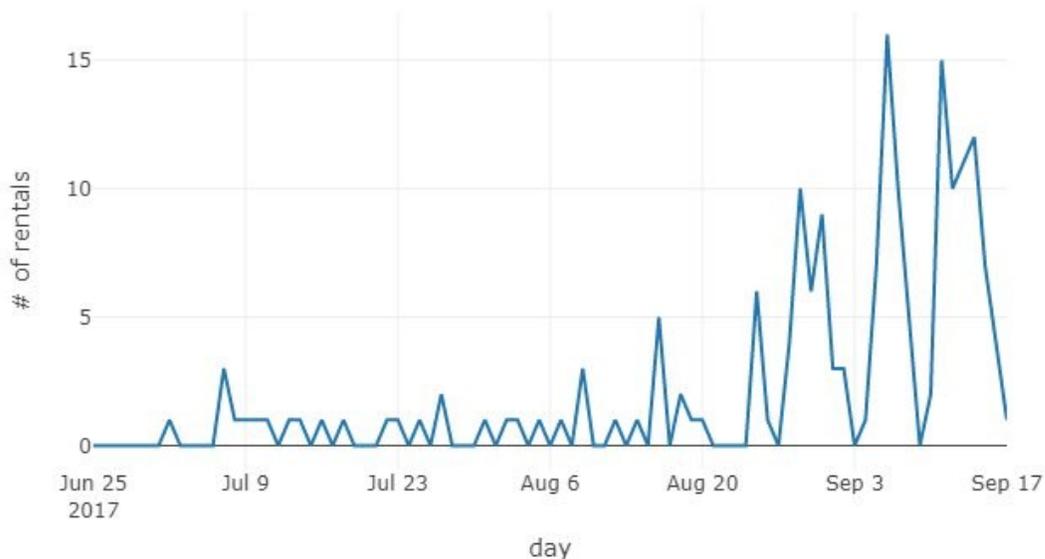


OTHER REGIONAL ACTIVITIES:

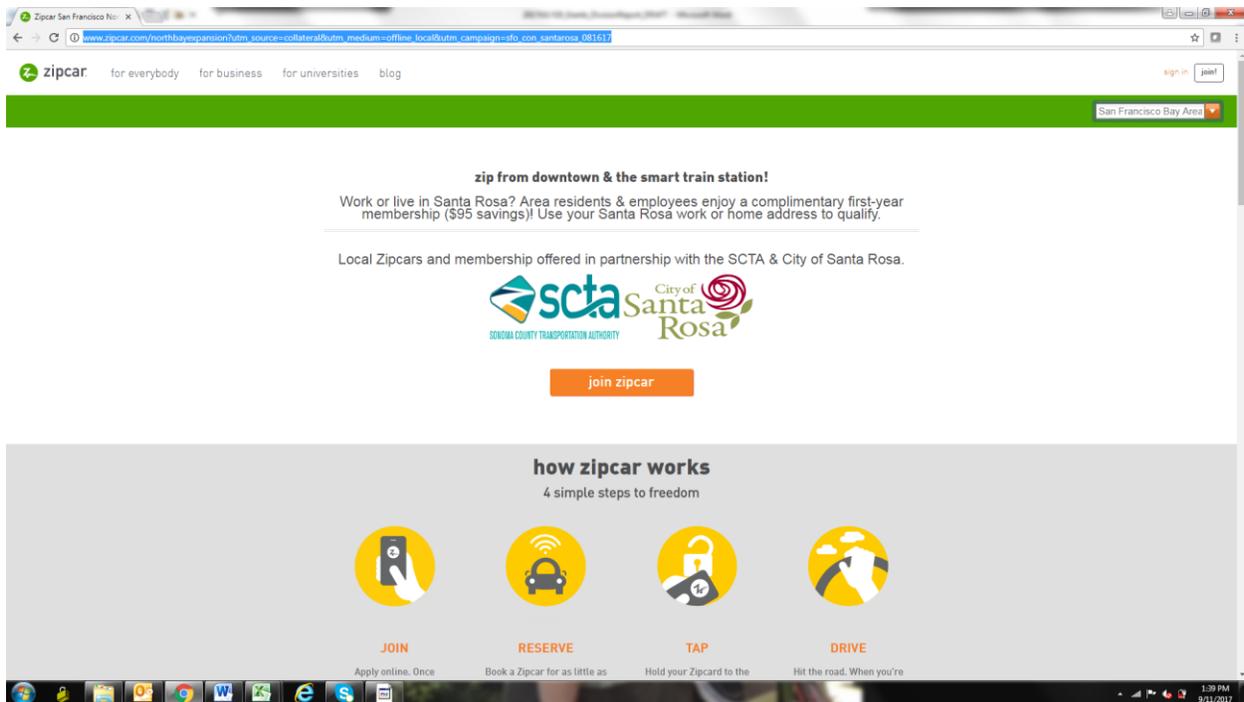
BikeLink™ Lockers: SMART has installed 34 electronic lockers accommodating 68 bicycles at SMART Stations.

STATION	RACKS	LOCKERS
Downtown San Rafael	10	4
Civic Center	10	4
Hamilton	10	4
North Novato	10	8
Petaluma	10	12
Cotati	10	8
Rohnert Park	10	8
Downtown Santa Rosa	10	12
North Santa Rosa	10	4
Airport	10	4
Total:	100	68

The locker vendor, BikeLink™, has locker locations throughout the Bay Area and more information on how to use the system can be found here: <https://www.bikelink.org/>. Cards to use the system can be obtained directly through BikeLink™ or at retail vendors. To date two card vendor locations have been established at retailers in SMART’s service area, **Bicycle Brustop in Novato** and **Bike Partners in Santa Rosa**. Any retailers wishing to vend Bike Link cards should contact them via their website. BikeLink locker usage reports through September 17 indicate that Santa Rosa Downtown location has had the most number of rentals while Novato Hamilton/Cotati/Civic Center tend to have longer rental durations. The system-wide locker usage through September 17 is shown here:



Santa Rosa Car Share Pilot Program: On August 25, the same day SMART began full service, ZipCar officially launched its car-share service in Santa Rosa, in partnership with the City of Santa Rosa and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA). The year-long pilot program has located two Zipcar sites within Santa Rosa, one parked in the Railroad Square Depot lot at the SMART Station and the other is parked in the City-owned Lot 10 at 730 5th Street. SCTA staff has been working with Zipcar on a media and outreach campaign to promote the program. Santa Rosa residents and employees can take advantage of complementary annual Zipcar memberships subsidized by grant funds. ZipCar Santa Rosa’s web site is here:



TRANSIT OPERATOR COORDINATION:

Transit Technical Advisory Groups: SMART staff continues to participate in additional monthly transit coordination meetings above and beyond coordination directly related to the start of SMART services. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) hosts several monthly meetings related to transit attended by SMART staff:

- Transit Finance Working Group;
- Transit Wayfinding (Regional Wayfinding-Regional Hub Signage Program);
- Real-Time Transit information working group;
- Regional 511.org Transit Information; and,
- Clipper Staff Liaison Committee.

In addition, the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) hosts a Transit Technical Advisory Committee attended by SMART staff (September 13 most recent meeting).

PLANNING

REGIONAL TRANSIT/PLANNING COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

National Transit Database (NTD) Reporting – Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) grant recipients – those receiving funding from the Urbanized Area Formula Program (5307) or Rural Formula Program (5311) – are required to submit data to the NTD on a monthly and annual basis. Staff submitted a monthly ridership form (for the month of June & July) and a Safety & Security form that is due on an annual basis.

State Route 37 Project, MOU between TAM, SCTA, NCTPA, and STA - The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM), Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA), Napa County Transportation Planning Agency (NCTPA) and Solano Transportation Authority (STA) have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to continue to jointly study needed improvements to State Route (SR) 37. The next SR 37 Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday September 25th, 2017 and a staff member from the planning department will be in attendance.

LOCAL COORDINATION

Local Coordination Tracking – The Planning department tracks all notices sent by local jurisdictions for projects occurring adjacent to or nearby the railroad. Staff reviewed 39 notices in the months of June, July and August

SCTA Transit Technical Advisory Committee – On Wednesday September 13th, Planning staff and the Programming and Grants Manager attended Sonoma County Transportation Authority's monthly Transit Technical Advisory Committee meeting in Santa Rosa.

RIDER GUIDES/INFORMATION

Real-Time Information (Google) – Staff submitted General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) files to Google for final review last month. As of August 31st, SMART is live on Google Maps. Staff will continually monitor Google Maps to ensure that it correctly displays our schedules and fares and is in the process of signing up for Realtime Transit, which allows SMART to submit live transit information and updates to Google Maps.

Real-Time Information (511.org) – SMART static schedules have been integrated on the 511.org website. Real-time information will be integrated once Metropolitan Transportation Commission is ready to receive GTFS-Realtime files from Swiftly.

Surveys – Staff continues to monitor and analyze the on-board survey that is being conducted via the Wi-Fi login on the train.

Bike Link (Bike lockers) – On August 3rd, staff received training on how to keep track of Bike Link data, including average rentals per card, location spaces count, weekday rentals, weekend rentals, total rentals, total revenue, total hours parked, etc. Staff continually monitors the data.

Swiftly – On September 6th, staff received training on how to use the Swiftly dashboard. The Swiftly dashboard shows a live map of the SMART alignment, contains GPS playback so you can see how SMART operated on a certain day and generates on-time performance reports.

Ridership – Staff continues to monitor and analyze SMART ridership on a daily basis



MARKETING

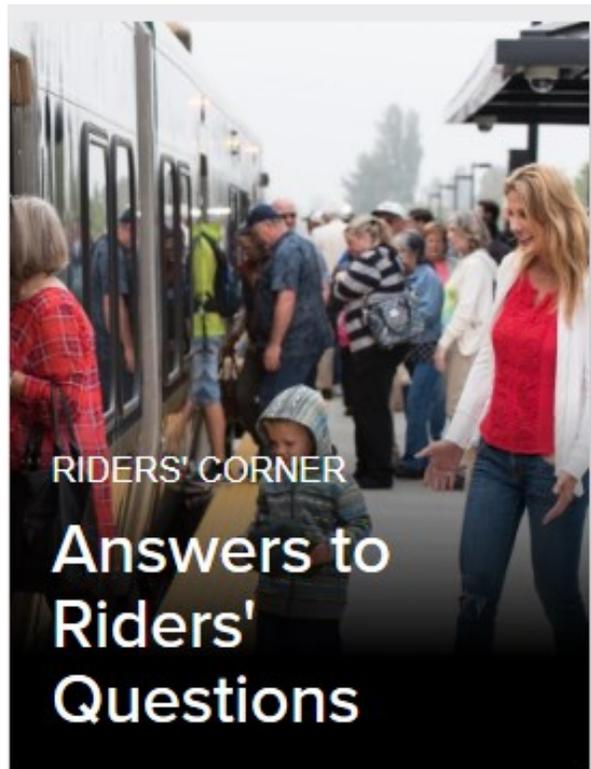
Marketing Programs | SMART Advertising

SMART advertising launch campaign is wrapping up later this month, with the final installments of SMART awareness advertising related to the start of service. SMART continues to receive media coverage in its early weeks of service that contribute to our public engagement efforts. With service underway, safety ads and service-related programs will once again be at the forefront of our messaging.

In addition, advertising sales on SMART trains and at stations have been strong with regional, local and national advertisers purchasing ads onboard the SMART train and on SMART platforms. Jump on board one of our trains or visit our stations and you'll be able to see some of our key advertisers. Through the efforts and work of SMART's Communications and Marketing department, most spaces were sold out prior to launch, with advertisers such as Clover, the Sonoma Land Trust, and Bank of Marin getting on board early to make certain their ads would be up for the start of full service. Advertising space remains very limited, and strong and continued interest are excellent indicators of future sales and revenue to come.



With SMART in operation, our passenger-focused website has had a dramatic increase in visitors. In the past 30 days, more than 75,000 unique visitors have spent an average over 3 minutes on the site. Alongside social media, the website has been another component in educating and engaging the public on the SMART system. In addition to standing sections like our Riders' Guide, Schedules, and Fares, periodic features on our homepage, such as "Riders' Corner" and "Transit Connections Made Easy" are a few examples of SMART's initiatives to address questions received through social media, email, and our outreach hotline.



Media | News Coverage

- September 6, *San Rafael is top destination for new SMART train riders, survey shows* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- September 5, *SMART train ridership has good start* (Sonoma State Star)
- September 1, *SMART transports almost 2,700 per day in first week of commuter service* (Marin Independent Journal)
- September 1, *SMART sees strong passenger numbers in first week of paid service* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- September 1, *People Behaving Badly: Safety around SMART tracks* (KRON 4 TV)
- September 1, *New Californian commuter rail service launches mobile ticketing* (ITS International)
- September 1, *SMART Train celebrates start of service* (Community Voice)
- August 31, *Keeping SMART on right track* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- August 31, *Commuters hail launch of SMART train* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- August 30, *CA: Masabi launches mobile ticketing in San Francisco Bay Area with Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- August 30, *New passenger train service opens in the Sonoma-Marin area* (Global Railway Review)
- August 30, *Masabi launches m-ticketing in San Francisco Bay Area* (Telecompaper)
- August 30, *PTC equipped San Francisco commuter train departs for first time* (Smart Rail World)
- August 30, *SMART train service launches in San Francisco* (Global Rail News)
- August 29, *Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit commuter line opens* (Metro Report International)
- August 29, *CA: Sonoma-Marin rail reports full trains as commuter service opens* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- August 28, *New SMART passenger rail service now rolling through California wine country* (Government Technology)
- August 26, *SMART passengers say their first train rides go smoothly* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 26, *After long-awaited launch, North Bay's SMART line now faces biggest test* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)



- August 26, *Dick Spotswood: As SMART rolls, it still has promises to keep* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 25, *Santa Rosa ribbon-cutting marks official launch of North Bay SMART rail service* (KPIX/CBS 5)
- August 25, *What it's like to ride the SMART train* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 25, *SMART train begins service in North Bay with a ceremony and speeches* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 25, *SMART trains 'roll' Friday* (Novato Advance)
- August 25, *North Bay's new SMART commuter train gets off to a smooth start* (SF Gate)
- August 25, *SMART extends the long line of North Bay rail service from our past* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 25, *SMART train debuts in North Bay* (KNTV/NBC 11)
- August 25, *SMART opening day ceremonies, trains draw crowds* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 25, *SMART Bay Area train, dumb Bay Area transit* (Sacramento Bee)
- August 24, *Video: 7 things to know before catching a ride on SMART train* (KGO/ABC 7)
- August 24, *Marin IJ Editorial: The launch of SMART ends a long wait* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 25, *PD Editorial: The train returns to the North Bay* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 24, *SMART Train: Where To Park In San Rafael* (San Rafael Patch)
- August 24, *SMART train service starts Friday* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 23, *Bay Area transit fails to put riders first* (San Francisco Chronicle)
- August 23, *Upfront: Train I Ride* (Pacific Sun)
- August 23, *SMART ready to roll* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- August 22, *SMART selling land near downtown Santa Rosa station to housing developer* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 22, *New Bay Area Commuter Rail Line Starts This Week* (Next City)
- August 19, *SMART general manager Farhad Mansourian looks to train's start and beyond* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 18, *North Bay's SMART train to begin service Aug 25 with 50% reduced fares* (San Francisco Business Times)

- August 18, *SMART Train Is Really Happening ... For Real* (KQED News)
- August 18, *SMART begins passenger train service on August 25* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- August 18, *Editorial: Thumbs up: Clear the tracks! SMART has arrived* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 18, *FRA OKs start of SMART commuter-rail service* (Progressive Railroading)
- August 17, *SMART trains to begin North Bay service Aug. 25* (SF Gate)
- August 17, *SMART Train Opening Day Announced: 'We Are Ready To Roll'* (Petaluma Patch)
- August 17, *SMART announces start of full service Aug. 25* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- August 17, *SMART train service between Marin and Sonoma counties to start Aug. 25* (Napa Valley Register)
- August 17, *Sonoma-Marin train announces start date for commuters* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 12, *SMART continues to await fed' OK on safety system to launch service* (Marin Independent Journal)
- August 8, *Downtown SMART station sees additional funding* (Novato Advance)
- August 1, *CA: Marin Transportation officials giddy over rosy funding outlook* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- August 1, *CA: North Bay's SMART Commuter Rail System to Roll After Long Delays* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 31, *CA: Marin Transportation Officials Giddy Over Rosy Funding Outlook* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 30, *Marin transportation officials giddy over rosy funding outlook* (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 30, *CA: North Bay's SMART commuter rail system to roll after long delays* (San Francisco Chronicle)
- July 27, *CA: Novato Downtown Rail Stop Gets Money from Regional Agency* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 27, *MTC approves \$500,000 grant for downtown Novato SMART station* (Napa Valley Register)
- July 27, *Funds Approved for Downtown Novato Train Stop* (KNTV/NBC Channel 11)
- July 26, *Novato downtown rail stop gets money from regional agency* (Marin Independent Journal)

- July 26, *Novato SMART Station Secures Additional Funding* (Novato Patch)
- July 20, *CA: SMART Chief Says Federal Approvals 'Very, Very Close'* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 20, *Successful transit is convenient* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 20, *Proposed bridge toll hike would pay for projects* (Marinscope Newspapers)
- July 19, *SMART chief says federal approvals 'very, very close'* (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 17, *CA: Sonoma County Adds Bus Routes Designed to Serve SMART Train Users* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 17, *Bridge toll increase proposed to fix Bay Area highways, transit systems* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 16, *Concessionistas to offer food service aboard SMART trains* (Petaluma Argus Courier)
- July 14, *Sonoma County adds bus routes designed to serve SMART train users* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 14, *Becoming Independent 'concessionistas' to offer food service aboard SMART trains* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 14, *Proposed hike in Bay Area bridge tolls to pay for \$4.2 billion in transportation upgrades* (Santa Rosa Press Democrat)
- July 12, *Novato council approves funding for downtown SMART station* (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 11, *CA: SMART Train Offers More Free Preview Rides for Public* (Mass Transit Magazine)
- July 11, *All Aboard the SMART Train! Thousands Take Free Preview Rides* (Rohnert Park Patch)