

Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District



General Manager's Report – August 2020

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SMART

|| SONOMA-MARIN AREA RAIL TRANSIT

This month, SMART marks the third anniversary of the start of passenger service. As an integral part of the fabric of the North Bay, SMART has been here through fires, floods, economic recessions and a viral pandemic and we'll continue to proudly serve in the good times and through the rough patches. We are a strong and resilient community, and together we will come through these challenging times.

The SMART train is a green commute option for Marin and Sonoma, with connections to San Francisco via the Larkspur Ferry. SMART is continuing to serve our community and creating connections to jobs, education centers, retail hubs and housing along the Sonoma-Marín corridor. We are very proud of the team of dedicated professionals who make up SMART staff and the vital service they provide to the North Bay.



SMART Grand Opening - August 25, 2017



Larkspur Station Grand Opening - December 13, 2019



Novato Downtown Station Grand Opening - December 14, 2019

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MARKETING

Community Outreach | Construction Outreach



Passenger service to Windsor is planned for 2021

Construction work for the Windsor Extension continues. As part of track work in preparation for passenger rail service to the Town of Windsor, SMART contractor, Stacy and Witbeck will be performing bridge construction activities between Shiloh Road and Windsor River Road over the next several months. The Community Outreach team provided construction information to the residents in the surrounding the area. Information on all of SMART's construction activities is available online at SonomaMarinTrain.org/Construction-Updates. To subscribe to receive construction updates about the Windsor Extension project, [click here](#).



Digital Programs | Social Media

SMART's #StayingApartKeepsUsMoving digital campaign performed extremely well on social media, reaching thousands of users and generating substantial engagement over the last four weeks. The SMART staff portraits and videos were very well received by our audiences across all social media platforms, with each post receiving a significant number of reactions, comments, and shares. You can view the social media campaign on SMART's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SonomaMarinTrain/>



SONOMA-MARIN
SMART
AREA RAIL TRANSIT

2X daily Cleaning Protocols

- ✓ wipe down interior surfaces, including seats, seat-back trays, tables, hand rails, windows, and luggage racks
- ✓ trains sanitized with an electrostatic spray
- ✓ refill soap dispensers and service water
- ✓ clean the train restrooms including sanitizing the toilet, sink, mirror, walls and baby changing station
- ✓ sweep, vacuum, and mop interior floors
- ✓ empty all trash and recycle bins
- ✓ hand sanitizer dispensers on all trains



Meet Antonio.

Engineer and Conductor

He's an artist and world traveler from Atlanta.

He wears a facial covering everyday. When you wear yours on the train, you help protect essential workers like Antonio.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Meet Edgar.

Operations Laborer

He's a husband and a father, who loves to play the guitar.

When you wear a facial covering, you help protect the people who disinfect your train twice a day. Edgar and all SMART staff thank you.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Meet Jag.

Vehicle Maintenance Technician

He has two grown children whom he loves dearly.

Jag makes sure our trains are a reliable way to travel. When you practice social distancing, you are protecting essential workers like Jag.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Meet Nina.

Admin. Services Manager at the Rail Operations Center

She's a wife and a mother, who loves gardening.

She works hard to keep SMART rolling. When she comes to work, she wears a facial covering. Please do the same when you ride transit.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Meet Shawn.

Signal Technician

He's a father of two, who was born and raised in Cloverdale.

Shawn works hard to ensure trains travel safely through our community. When you wear a facial covering, you help protect people like Shawn and his family.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Meet Steven.

Engineer/Conductor

He's a classic car enthusiast and comes from a family of rail operators.

Steven wears a facial covering to help create a clean, healthy environment for SMART riders. Please join Steven in wearing a facial covering on the train.

#StayingApartKeepsUsMoving



Media | News Coverage

- August 9, *Railroad track preparation on Pool Creek starts this week* (The Windsor Times)
- August 8, *Dick Spotswood: Transit patterns and shopping not the only changes in store* (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 30, *City, SMART spar over Petaluma property* (The Argus Courier)
- July 29, *Marin County Civil Grand Jury issues 1-year progress report* (Marin Independent Journal)
- July 29, *PD Editorial: Give low-income riders an affordable option on SMART* (The Press Democrat)
- July 28, *SMART seeks support for low-income discount program in ticket price review* (Mass Transit Magazine)

RIDERSHIP INFORMATION

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekly Totals	
17-Feb	18-Feb	19-Feb	20-Feb	21-Feb	22-Feb	23-Feb	Bikes	ADA
2,081	2,961	3,196	3,124	2,959	1,568	1,456	1742	79
24-Feb	25-Feb	26-Feb	27-Feb	28-Feb	29-Feb	1-Mar		
2,901	3,174	3,227	3,256	2,986	1,522	969	2067	72
COVID-19 Starts								
2-Mar	3-Mar	4-Mar	5-Mar	6-Mar	7-Mar	8-Mar		
2,782	2,916	3,091	3,005	2,833	874	733	2036	71
9-Mar	10-Mar	11-Mar	12-Mar	13-Mar	14-Mar	15-Mar		
2,470	2,455	2,498	2,298	1,822	292	293	1612	67
16-Mar	17-Mar	18-Mar	19-Mar	20-Mar	21-Mar	22-Mar		
867	489	353	331	342	Annulled	Annulled	379	16
23-Mar	24-Mar	25-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar	28-Mar	29-Mar		
274	239	297	290	315	Annulled	Annulled	251	10
** Service Reduced to 34 Trips**								
30-Mar	30/31	1-Apr	2-Apr	3-Apr	4-Apr	5-Apr		
253	243	252	266	247	Annulled	Annulled	245	0
**Service Reduced to 16 Trips **								
6-Apr	7-Apr	8-Apr	9-Apr	10-Apr	11-Apr	12-Apr		
171	182	185	189	180	Annulled	Annulled	166	2
13-Apr	14-Apr	15-Apr	16-Apr	17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr		
180	205	196	214	191	Annulled	Annulled	202	5
20-Apr	21-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	24-Apr	25-Apr	26-Apr		
201	200	211	219	194	Annulled	Annulled	246	11
27-Apr	28-Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-May	3-May		
203	215	222	248	202	Annulled	Annulled	256	6
4-May	5-May	6-May	7-May	8-May	9-May	10-May		
248	265	245	237	248	Annulled	Annulled	286	8
11-May	12-May	13-May	14-May	15-May	16-May	17-May		
214	239	255	267	266	Annulled	Annulled	276	1
18-May	19-May	20-May	21-May	22-May	23-May	24-May		
233	293	265	281	330	Annulled	Annulled	368	4

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekly Totals	
25-May	26-May	27-May	28-May	29-May	30-May	31-May	Bikes	ADA
Annulled	287	302	335	296	Annulled	Annulled	310	1
1-Jun	2-Jun	3-Jun	4-Jun	5-Jun	6-Jun	7-Jun	407	2
309	322	369	336	346	Annulled	Annulled		
8-Jun	9-Jun	10-Jun	11-Jun	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun	459	14
346	389	390	350	386	Annulled	Annulled		
15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	490	3
383	377	424	409	399	Annulled	Annulled		
22-Jun	23-Jun	24-Jun	25-Jun	26-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun	496	9
400	409	433	398	361	Annulled	Annulled		
29-Jun	30-Jun	1-Jul	2-Jul	3-Jul	4-Jul	5-Jul	426	2
419	431	429	390	297	Annulled	Annulled		
6-Jul	7-Jul	8-Jul	9-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul	12-Jul	453	4
421	462	420	420	392	Annulled	Annulled		
13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul	18-Jul	19-Jul	465	5
412	414	419	421	397	Annulled	Annulled		
20-Jul	21-Jul	22-Jul	23-Jul	24-Jul	25-Jul	26-Jul	514	8
369	394	418	488	425	Annulled	Annulled		
27-Jul	28-Jul	29-Jul	30-Jul	31-Jul	1-Aug	2-Aug	464	5
379	404	390	452	414	Annulled	Annulled		
3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	474	9
417	437	404	440	476	Annulled	Annulled		
10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug	506	1
433	464	438	446	396	Annulled	Annulled		
17-Aug	18-Aug	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug	22-Aug	23-Aug	403	0
346	418	387	399	324	Annulled	Annulled		
24-Aug	25-Aug	26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	507	4
349	407	406	467	445	Annulled	Annulled		

WINDSOR EXTENSION PROJECT

- Removal of old bridge structures is complete.
- Rail welding is complete.
- Design work is almost complete.
- Installed Windsor River Road track and signal equipment conduits and foundations.
- Coordination with the Town of Windsor and County of Sonoma is on-going.
- Building of drainage structures is ongoing.
- Building of bridge structures has begun.
- Airport Boulevard widening work for the County of Sonoma has begun with removal of existing drainage structures.



Digging North of Aviation Boulevard to Install New Drainage Pipe



Driving Bridge Sheet Piles at Airport Creek



Installing Conduits for Train Control North of Windsor River Road



Installing Airport Creek Bridge Abutments



Installing Airport Creek Bridge Abutments



Driving Sheet Piles near Pool Creek



Backfilling Against Bridge Structures at Airport Creek



Setting Pedestrian Bridge at Airport Creek



Prepping to Install New Windsor River Road Railroad Crossing



Installing Windsor River Road Railroad Crossing

Multi-Use Pathway Project

Sonoma County Pathway Gap Closure Project:

- South Point Boulevard in Petaluma to Main Street in Penngrove (4.4 miles)
- Golf Course Drive in Rohnert Park to Bellevue Avenue in Santa Rosa (4.5 miles)

GHD Inc. and subcontractors are working on gathering preliminary engineering data for design including environmental, geotechnical, and survey. The Designer, GHD Inc., and their subcontractors finished gathering preliminary engineering data including environmental, geotechnical, and survey. SMART and the design team are evaluating Non-Motorized Pathway alignment options within the SMART right-of-way.



Field Investigation for the Multi-Use Pathway Alignment

OPERATIONS

MAINTENANCE OF WAY:

- Signal staff supported SMART contractor for various warranty punch list work on the South extension – Downtown San Rafael Pedestrian gates.
- Track staff mobilized new crossing panels to the Todd Road crossing. New crossing Panels has been installed in conjunction with Ghilotti Construction paving of Todd Road.
- Signal staff is working on crossing equipment modifications at Hanna Ranch and Civic Center to prevent water issues during flooding. They are relocating track shunts from ground level tubes to elevated boxes at flood prone locations.
- Track staff completed tree pruning and vegetation management north of River road, north Windsor, and Penngrove area.
- Track staff provided an average of 2 flaggers per day this month for various projects including new 101 freeway overpass in Petaluma, PG&E vegetation project, Pathway design activities (surveyors, biologists, soil drillers), and county paving projects.
- Facilities staff completed 8 fence repairs at various locations along SMART's right-of-way.
- Facilities staff completed COVID 19 training for heating, ventilation, air conditioning. New cleaning protocols were implemented at all of SMART's facilities.



Track Shunt being relocated to an elevated box

TRANSPORTATION:

SMART Transportation Department Training:

- Currently up-dating Absorb online training for year 2020.
- An Engineer-Conductor was promoted to Controller Supervisor
- One Engineer was certified as an Engineer.
- All Engineer-Conductor reviewed Transportation Critical Safety Rules.
- All Engineer-Conductor received training on COVID-19 Electro-Static Spraying.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

- Changed out fly wheels on Diesel Multiple Units 116, 110, and 102 due to a defect found on each fly wheel. This involves jacking each Diesel Multiple Unit and removing the engine.
- Changed out fire suppression extinguisher's on Diesel Multiple Unit 110.
- Performed mid-year maintenance on 2 Diesel Multiple Unit.
- Performed 500-hour oil change on 7 Diesel Multiple Units.
- Automatic Train Control maintenance performed on 4 Diesel Multiple Units. This maintenance keeps us compliant with Federal Regulatory Association regulations in regards to positive train control.
- Performed data downloads on the fleet. The Diesel Multiple Units have many subsystems that are integrated. Downloading the systems data provides SMART an opportunity to investigate different occurrences that may not show during our normal inspections.
- Performed emergency exit window pull test on 2 of the Diesel Multiple Units. The test is to establish confidence per the Code of Federal Regulations that the emergency exit windows will react as designed during an emergency

SAFETY AND SECURITY



Trespasser at Sebastopol Road, Santa Rosa



College Avenue Multi-Use Path, Santa Rosa



Trespasser at Todd Road, Santa Rosa



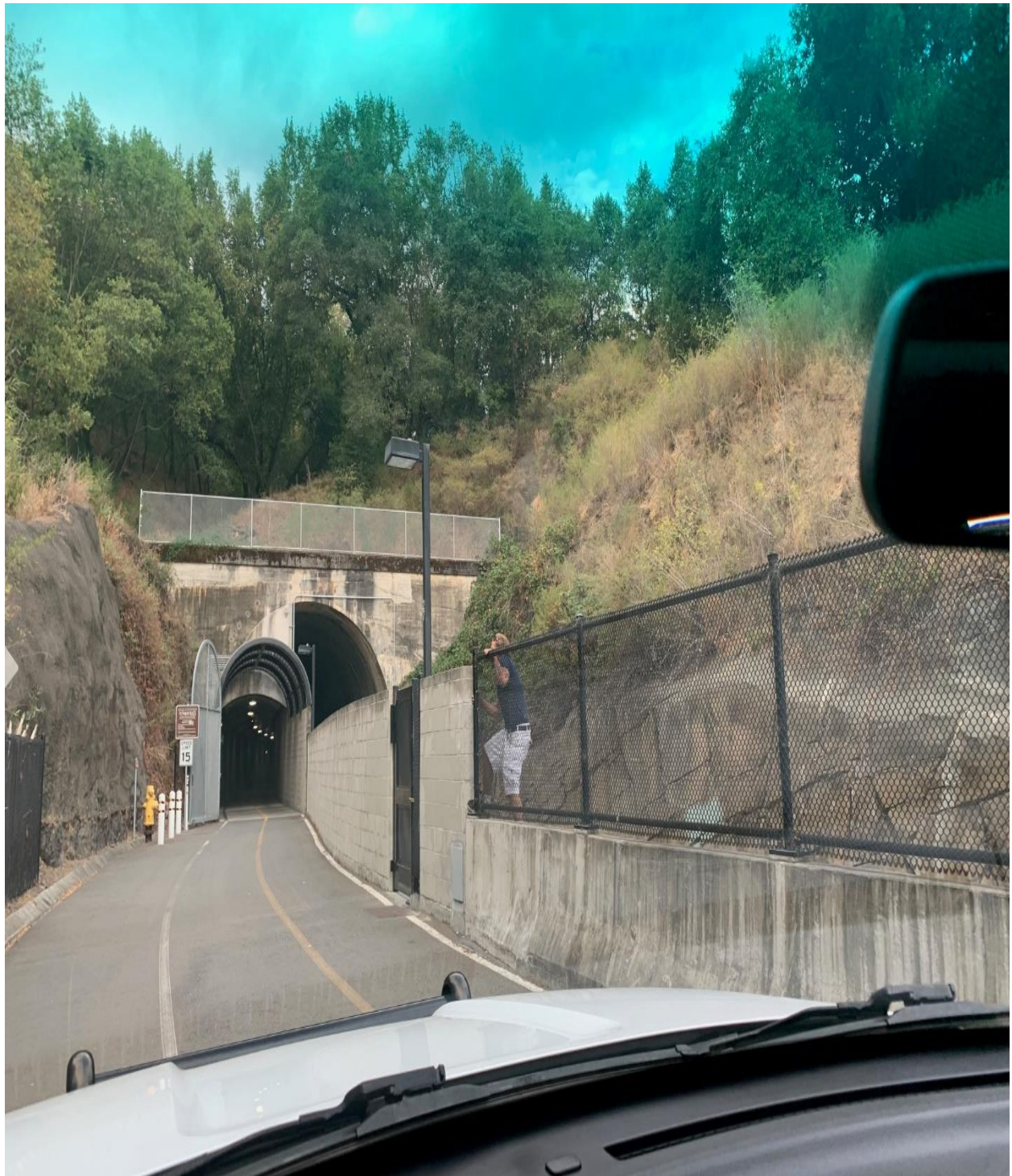
Trespasser at Riverbend and Lakeville, Petaluma



Trespasser at San Miguel, Santa Rosa



Trespassers cutting vegetation at 3rd and Sebastopol, Santa Rosa



Trespasser on Tracks jumping the fence at Cal Park Tunnel



Trespasser sitting at the edge of station platform -Hamilton Station, Novato



Trespasser camping near the Central Instrument Location (CIL) - Caulfield Lane, Petaluma

REAL ESTATE

Private Crossings

Staff is continuing to work on researching SMART's ownership, property rights of ingress and egress easements and current and necessary agreements along the Brazos Branch. One property owner on the Brazos Branch, that is immediately adjacent to the tracks, requested a private crossing agreement which was sent to the owner. Staff has responded to their comments and is still waiting for the owner to respond.

Property Acquisitions (in process)

Downtown Petaluma Station Property: Staff is waiting for Union Pacific Railroad to agree to the final documents for a fiber optics easement on the property. Staff is continuing to work with the City of Petaluma and the developers' staff by giving them access to property for their work.

Windsor Extension Project: Staff is continuing to research property rights that were granted to third parties on or along the new extension. Staff is working to remove any encroachments on SMART property. Staff is continuing to work with the various utilities along the extension on a variety of property issues

Property Management

Staff is continuing to address a variety of requests from adjacent property owners, such as, removal of dead trees, vegetation removal, trash, abandoned vehicles, and research of location where telecommunications companies are crossing SMART property.

Special Event Requests

Waves to Wine Bike Ride- National Multiple Sclerosis Society- September 12-13, 2020

Special Event Requests:

Bike Monkey- Levi's GranFondo Bike Ride/Race, Windsor/Healdsburg/Cloverdale- May 29, 2021

Right of Entry Permits Issued

PG&E- Vegetation Maintenance Yearly Renewal Permit- New Process for entire Right of Way

PG&E- Electrical Pole Replacement- Bell Road-Windsor

PG&E- New Electrical installation on Windsor Road- Windsor

Buckler Family Vineyards LLC – Adobe Road Winery utility connection – Petaluma

Ghilotti Construction Company- Pavement Overlay project on River Road- Fulton

Keely Kyne- Retaining Wall Replacement- Novato

City of Novato- Grant Avenue Pavement work- Novato

County of Sonoma- Pavement work on Old Adobe Rd.- Penngrove

County of Sonoma- Pavement work on Todd Rd.- Santa Rosa

GHD/Crawford & Associates- Boring work for SMART MUP

GHD/WRA, Inc.- Wetlands Mapping and tree survey work for SMART MUP

GHD/Stantec- Botanical and Wildlife survey for SMART MUP

GHD/Cinquini & Passarino Inc. Land survey work for SMART MUP



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

PG&E- New regulator and vault installation on Fulton Road- Fulton
County of Marin- Simmons Slough Water Management System
Fredric C. Divine Associates- 826 State Access Road/ 1385 N. Hamilton Pkwy- Novato
Marin County Flood Control – Installation of 3 pumps – Hwy 37
Sonoma Land Trust- Erosion Control and Dirt hauling on Brazos branch- Sonoma
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.

On-Going Property Management Activities:

Records research for all road and track intersection – data base development.
Records research on Brazos Branch (Napa County – real estate records)
Records research for Healdsburg.
Work on Appraisal values for various Healdsburg properties.
Work with Accounting to get any past due Lessee's accounts up to date.
Finalized Right of Entry process with Accounting and Operations
Review and evaluation of requests to lease SMART properties.
Records Management
Research of records for old Petaluma, Santa Rosa Rail line spur in Petaluma – downtown trestle
Research of records for Payran Pathway – sewer line ownership questions
Research of records for Healdsburg Station – environmental records researched
Research of records for sidewalk at Santa Rosa Downtown Station.
Working on access protocols with Sonoma County Water Agency.
Staff is continuing to work with Pacific Gas & Electric Company to refine access issues and update Master Agreement with after discovered facilities.
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 and survey as necessary.
Continue working with property owners to remove encroachments.
Title reports ordered and being reviewed.
Meetings held with private property owners.
Field work visiting SMART owned properties.

HUMAN RESOURCE

RECRUITMENT:

Chief Financial Officer -To be considered, **please submit your resume and cover letter to Human Resources Manager, lhansley@sonomamarintrain.org or visit SMART's website to complete an application: <https://secure2.saashr.com/ta/i.SMART.careers?CareersSearch>**



Chief Financial Officer



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GRANTS, LEGISLATION, PLANNING AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

GRANT ACTIVITIES

Active Transportation Program - The next round of State Active Transportation Program funds is accepting grants through September 15, 2020. SMART has submitted a letter of support for the City of Santa Rosa/Caltrans Highway 101 Pedestrian-Bicycle Overcrossing application. The project crosses over between the Santa Rosa Junior College neighborhood on the east side of the highway and the North Santa Rosa SMART Station/Coddington Transit Center neighborhood on the west side of the highway.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Local Planning Department Notification and Coordination Tracking - SMART Planning Staff also tracks and reviews all notices sent by local jurisdictions for projects occurring adjacent to or nearby the railroad tracks. In 2019 staff received and reviewed 171 different notices, with 115 notices by July 2019. To date in 2020, SMART has received and reviewed 83 different notices.

US-101 Part-Time Transit Lanes Feasibility Study - The Transportation Authority of Marin received grant funding from Caltrans to assess the feasibility of part-time transit lanes on US-101 in northern Marin County from San Marin Drive to Downtown San Rafael. Staff participated in the first meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Monday August 3 and will continue to monitor the project and provide input as needed.

SYSTEM ACCESS PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Bike Share: The Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) and Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) are implementing a Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)-funded bike share system in close proximity to the SMART stations as a First/Last-Mile access solution. SCTA & TAM have selected Gotcha Mobility as the operator of the Bike Share Pilot Program. The pilot program will roll-out 300 GPS-enabled electric bicycles for three years centered around SMART stations. The August meeting of Bicycle Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which is comprised of representatives from each jurisdiction along the SMART line, including SMART, was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 23. Due to COVID-19, the program implementation timeline has been impacted by community outreach and manufacturing limitations. Additional program modifications regarding COVID related protocols are under development and will be discussed in future TAC meetings.

Clipper START Program: In 2015 Metropolitan Transportation Commission launched a study to determine if a transit fare program based on household income would be feasible and effective. SMART has been participating in the MTC-hosted Clipper START Program, with monthly meetings and a recent launch of a Clipper-based means-based fare 18-month pilot program on selected regional transit operators, which include BART, SFMTA, Caltrain & Golden Gate Bus and Ferry. Information on the program and how to enroll can be found here: <https://www.clipperstartcard.com/s/>

At the February 5, 2020 meeting, SMART Board unanimously approved Resolution Number 2020-05 which authorized SMART's formal request to participate in the regional Clipper START Low Income Fare Program. MTC recently announced they are now able to accept new operators into the pilot program using \$5.1 million of CARES Act regional funds to help offset up to 10% of lost fares. SMART is working with MTC to join the program with Clipper estimating a November 2020 launch.

Regional Transit Mapping and Wayfinding Project: Harmonization Agency Interviews – Staff virtually attended the latest meeting of MTC's Regional Mapping and Wayfinding project on Wednesday August 12. The project is focused on exploring a series of options for harmonization for transit mapping and information that span from slight modifications to existing information infrastructure, to significant change. The purpose of this meeting was to interview North Bay transit operators about baseline information that will allow the project consultant to identify the potential benefits and potential costs of each mapping option.

Transit Coordination Meetings:

- **August 5, 2020** - Staff participated in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) monthly **Transit Finance Working Group** meeting. Discussions included legislative updates, funding notices, Transportation Improvement Program update, Cap and Trade Update, FY17-FY20 Transit Capital Priorities Programming update, California Air Resources Board Innovative Clean Transit Regulation Update, Transit Capital Program update, and COVID-19 response.
- **August 12, 2020** – Staff participated in Sonoma County Transportation Authority's monthly **Transit Technical Advisory Committee** meeting. Discussions included transit operator updates, regional funding updates, and Bay Area Transit Safety & Health Plan.
- **August 20, 2020** – Staff participated in the quarterly North Bay Transportation Officials Meeting. Discussions included the Blue-Ribbon Task Force, Marin and Uber Microtransit Partnership, operational status updates, data and procurement, travel demand management, and equity planning.
- **Aug 4, Aug 5, Aug 12, Aug 18, Aug 25, Sept. 1** – Bay Area Transit Operator coordination meetings. SMART staff met with the Bay Area's smaller transit operators, defined as any except the seven largest, weekly to coordinate comments and activities associated with COVID-19 response and presentation preparation requested by the MTC Blue Ribbon Task Force.