



**For Immediate Release**

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## **SMART appoints Eddy Cumins as new General Manager**

Petaluma, CA –Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) announced today that Eddy Cumins had been hired as the District’s next General Manager. As General Manager, Cumins will oversee all aspects of SMART’s Administration & Operations.

Prior to joining SMART, Cumins served as Chief Operating Officer for the Utah Transit Authority (UTA). He began his career at UTA in 2011 after a distinguished 20-year military career in the United States Air Force. During his time in the Air Force, Eddy served in numerous capacities in the Vehicle Management field and 4 years as an Airman Leadership School Commandant. His assignments included bases in California, Alaska, Portugal, Utah, and Japan. Prior to his current position, Cumins was the Regional General Manager of UTA’s Mt. Ogden Business Unit.

As UTA’s Chief Operating Officer, Eddy leads 2,234 employees who provide commuter rail, light rail, fixed route bus, route deviation, paratransit, vanpool, rideshare and coordinated mobility management services to 43 million riders annually. He was also responsible for the agency’s asset management program, maintenance of way, and transit police. His area of responsibility included seven counties covering nearly 1400 square miles with a population of 2.3 million residents.

Eddy earned a Master of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership from Colorado State University and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resource Development from Southwestern College.

“This is a terrific hire for SMART,” said Dave Rabbitt, Chair of the SMART Board of Directors. “Eddy brings a wealth of transportation management, including railroad management and operations experience, within a diverse rail transportation industry.”

“His skills will take SMART to the next level of perfection and customer service” said Vice-Chair Barbara Pahre.

Eddy Cumins, said “I am excited to join the SMART team. My wife and I love the Sonoma-Marin area and look forward to becoming active members in the community. I believe my background and experience are a perfect fit for SMART, and I am confident I can help the agency achieve both short and long-term goals”.

Eddy is expected to officially join SMART on November 29, 2021. SMART’s current General Manager, Farhad Mansourian, who has been managing SMART for over a decade, announced this past spring that he would be retiring at the end of the year to spend more time with his family.

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