

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 24, 2025
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Henry Li, General Manager/CEO
SUBJ: GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

No Recommendation - For Information Only.

SacRT Meeting Calendar

Regional Transit Board Meeting
April 14, 2025
1102 Q Street - SacRT Auditorium
4:00 P.M.

Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting
April 23, 2025
1102 Q Street - SacRT Auditorium
1:00 P.M.

Mobility Advisory Council Meeting
April 17, 2025
1102 Q Street - SacRT Auditorium
2:30 P.M.

Join SacRT's Transit Academy

Are you a Sacramento County resident, business professional or political leader interested in improving mobility in Sacramento? Or are you a transit rider curious about how SacRT makes service decisions? Here's your chance to discover the inner workings of SacRT and become a transit advocate in your community. SacRT is hosting a free Transit Academy this spring, offering a handful of participants a behind-the-scenes education on what goes into operating the largest public transit agency in the region. There are a limited number of spots available – apply now for the 2025 SacRT Transit Academy!

SacRT's Transit Academy is a six-class course designed to educate and engage the public in SacRT's planning process and how transit shapes our communities. Classes will be held once a week over a six-week period, concluding with a graduation ceremony.

Applications will be accepted starting Monday, March 24, 2025 through Monday, April 21, 2025. SacRT will be looking for participants that live and work in communities throughout our service area.

Academy participants will represent Sacramento's diverse population, which may include a mix of students, business professionals, seniors, individuals with disabilities, appointed and elected officials, key stakeholders and community-minded individuals. Space is limited to allow for better one-on-one engagement – only 40 spots available – and applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis while ensuring a diverse cross-section of the community is represented. Interested participants are encouraged to apply early to secure their spot.

Graduates will be recognized as knowledgeable representatives for public transit and be encouraged to engage the community in conversations about the region's mobility needs. Get access to SacRT's operations, meet transit leaders, and learn about the challenges and opportunities shaping Sacramento's public transit future.

SacRT's *FREE* Transit Academy includes presentations about public mass transit benefits; SacRT's operations, safety and security, budget and governance, and service improvements; Q & A; interactive discussions; individual action plan; and behind-the-scenes field trips. Presenters and speakers include SacRT management, rider advocates, and local transit leaders.

Class Schedule

The Transit Academy runs from May 15, 2025 through June 19, 2025, on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Who is eligible to participate?

The Transit Academy seeks applicants who are:

1. Residents, business owners, riders, community leaders, residents, students, institutional representatives, and elected office holders from SacRT's service area (Sacramento County)
2. At least 18 years of age or older
3. Interested in learning about and promoting the benefits of public transit, even if they don't ride

Applications are open through April 21, 2025. Space is limited—secure your spot today! Learn more and apply at: sacrt.com/transitacademy

Blue Line Platform Station Construction Resumes

SacRT is continuing station platform construction at Alkali Flat/La Valentina Station. During construction, the station will be closed between Saturday, March 22, 2025, and Sunday, March 30, 2025.

SacRT commenced platform construction along the Blue Line to modernize the light rail system in preparation for the new low-floor light rail vehicles. This project is an essential step toward enhancing accessibility and improving the rider experience.

Looking ahead, SacRT is preparing to enter the next stage of construction, which will include modifications to the remaining Blue Line stations and further upgrades to Gold Line stations to accommodate three-car train operations. While the project timeline is still being developed, construction is anticipated to begin early 2026. Learn more at: sacrt.com/stationclosure/

Tap2Ride: A Faster, Easier Way to Pay for Your Ride Starts April 1, 2025

SacRT's Tap2Ride program offers a contactless fare payment system designed to simplify your transit experience. Riders can enjoy a faster, more convenient way to pay for bus, light rail, and paratransit services.

To ensure smooth implementation, the Tap2Ride program is rolling out in two phases:

Phase 1: Tap2Ride on Buses and Paratransit Services (starts Tuesday, April 1, 2025)

Starting Tuesday, April 1, 2025, riders will be able to tap their contactless Visa or Mastercard credit/debit card, mobile wallet (smartphone or watch) directly onboard the bus., on Tap2Ride devices installed on all SacRT buses and SacRT GO vehicles. Phase 1 of the Tap2Ride program offers bus riders the benefits of daily fare capping and 90-minute free transfers between bus routes similar to Connect Card.

Riders simply tap their contactless payment option to the device upon boarding the bus throughout the day and the Tap2Ride system will select the best fare (single ride or daily pass) based on their travel for the day. Riders can also continue to use contactless payment at light rail station vending machines. However, during this phase, fare transfer benefits between bus and light rail will not be available when using Tap2Ride.

Phase 2: Seamless Transfers Coming in Late 2025

In late 2025, SacRT will complete Phase 2 of Tap2Ride allowing riders to transfer seamlessly between buses and light rail using the same contactless payment method, with transfer benefits applied automatically.

Tap2Ride offers built-in support for fare discounts, making transit more affordable for:

- Seniors (65+ years old)
- Veterans
- Persons with Disabilities (Medicare cardholders)

Discounts are securely linked to your contactless payment card through the California Integrated Travel Project (Cal-ITP) web tool/app. This process eliminates the need for in-person verification, so you can focus on your journey. To apply for the discount fare, visit benefits.calitp.org.

SacRT Employee Recognition Program

Congratulations to the following SacRT team members:

February 2025

5 Years

Michael Ham
Tracy Johnston
Penelope Manzo
Kenneth Paulo
Sai Vang
Kevin Woodson

20 Years

Sangita Arya