For Immediate Release

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Santa Cruz METRO CEO Corey Aldridge Appointed to APTA Board of Directors

Santa Cruz, CA (August 6, 2025): Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) proudly announces that CEO Corey Aldridge has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), a prestigious honor recognizing his leadership and commitment to advancing public transit nationwide.

Aldridge was selected during the APTA 2025 Nominating Committee meeting in Chicago, IL, to serve a three-year term as one of the transit system directors on the 25-member Board. His nomination will be formally voted on by APTA members during the Annual Meeting of the Members at the upcoming TRANSform Conference in Boston, MA, on September 13, 2025.

Corey Aldridge joins a distinguished group of transit leaders from across the country, including executives from Lane Transit District (OR), Capital District Transportation Authority (NY), AC Transit (CA), Central Ohio Transit Authority (OH), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

"Corey's appointment to the APTA Board is a testament to his visionary leadership and tireless advocacy for inclusive, sustainable, and innovative transit solutions," said METRO Board Chair, Rebecca Downing. "We are thrilled to see his expertise recognized on a national level and look forward to the impact he will make in shaping the future of public transportation."

Since joining METRO, Aldridge has championed initiatives that enhance mobility, improve rider experience, and promote environmental stewardship. His role on the APTA Board will allow him to bring Santa Cruz's values and priorities to the national stage, while collaborating with peers to address the evolving challenges and opportunities facing transit agencies.

The APTA Board of Directors plays a critical role in guiding the strategic direction of the association, advocating for federal support, and fostering innovation across the industry. Aldridge's appointment ensures that METRO will have a strong voice in these conversations.

For more information about APTA's leadership and the 2025 nominations, visit <u>APTA Passenger</u> Transport.

About Us

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)

Established in 1968, METRO'S mission is to provide environmentally sustainable transportation to Santa Cruz County. METRO directly operates county-wide, fixed-route and Highway 17 commuter service, with connections to Santa Clara County and Monterey Salinas Transit at our Watsonville Transit Center. The agency also operates ParaCruz paratransit service. Today, METRO serves the community with a fleet of 104 buses across 20 fixed routes and 32 paratransit vehicles.

Every ride on a METRO bus takes cars off the road, significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and supports economic opportunity and quality of life in our community. Moving into the future, METRO strives to meet the following goals:

- Increase transit ridership to 7 million trips annually within the next five years
- Transition to a zero-emissions fleet with a mix of hydrogen and electric vehicles
- Increase affordable housing at METRO-owned transit centers to 175 units in the next 10 years.

For more information, visit scmetro.org.