

For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Danielle Glagola  
(831) 420-2550  
[dglagola@scmttd.com](mailto:dglagola@scmttd.com)  
[scmttd.com](http://scmttd.com)



**Santa Cruz METRO Announces Free Fares to the Santa Cruz County Fair  
September 14 -18, 2022**

**Santa Cruz, CA (Thursday, September 8, 2022)** - The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) announces free fares on both fixed-route and ParaCruz services to the Santa Cruz County Fair September 14 – 18<sup>th</sup> at the Watsonville Fairgrounds.

To provide additional service to Santa Cruz County Fair attendees, METRO has created a special route, Route 79F, that will provide daily service to the Watsonville Fairgrounds. Additionally, METRO will once again extend the Route 79 weekend service and daily ParaCruz service to the fairgrounds in Watsonville. Fixed-Route customers can utilize Routes 79F and 79 to get to the Fairgrounds during this time, but only the 79F will offer free service to the fairgrounds on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Service will depart from the Watsonville Transit Center on the hour from noon - 10pm on weekdays and 10am - 10pm on weekends and will offer a return trip from the County Fair at :25 past the hour from 12:25pm – 10:25pm on weekdays and 10:25am-10:25pm on weekends.

For more information on taking METRO to the County Fair visit <http://scmttd.com/en/fares/45-agency-info/163-county-fair-route>.

To preview METRO's Fall Schedule before it is released visit <http://scmttd.com/en/routes/schedule/202310>.

For more information on METRO visit [scmttd.com](http://scmttd.com).

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**About Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District:**

Established in 1968, Santa Cruz METRO provides directly operated fixed-route and Highway 17 commuter service throughout Santa Cruz County, with limited service connecting to Monterey Salinas Transit at our Watsonville Transit Center and Santa Clara County, transporting more than 5 million\* passenger trips a year. METRO also directly operates ParaCruz paratransit service to Santa Cruz County, providing about 73,500\* trips per year. METRO's operating budget in FY21 is almost \$55 million and is funded through a combination of farebox revenue, sales tax, and state and federal sources. Today METRO operates a fleet of 94 buses on at least 24 fixed-routes and 32 paratransit vehicles. For more information, visit [www.scmttd.com](http://www.scmttd.com). Like METRO on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SantaCruzMETRO](http://www.facebook.com/SantaCruzMETRO) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/SantaCruzMETRO](http://www.twitter.com/SantaCruzMETRO).

\*Reflect pre-pandemic ridership numbers