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Santa Cruz METRO Hosts Stuff the Bus Food Drive

In Partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, Santa Cruz County of Chamber of Commerce, and Woodstock's Pizza

Date: December 5th, 1PM - 7PM Location: Bus Parked in front of Woodstock's Pizza (710 Front St., Santa Cruz, CA)

Santa Cruz, CA (Tuesday, November 19, 2024) – The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) is excited to announce its holiday Stuff the Bus Food Drive. The event will take place on December 5th from 1PM to 7PM, with a METRO bus parked in front of Woodstock's Pizza at 710 Front Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Join us for METRO's Stuff the Bus Food Drive and help us make a difference in our community! This initiative, hosted by Santa Cruz METRO in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce, and Woodstock's Pizza, aims to gather non-perishable food donations to support those in need.

We encourage community members to bring their non-perishable food donations to our parked bus. The most needed items include canned meat, peanut butter, soups, chili beans, cereal, canned fruit or vegetables, whole grain rice, pasta, and oats.

All donations collected will be distributed to individuals and families in need within our community. As a token of appreciation, everyone who donates will receive a complimentary 1-Ride bus pass from Santa Cruz METRO.

In addition, people can attend the Chamber's holiday business after-hours networking event at Woodstock's Pizza from 5PM to 7PM. This event, which will double as a food drive, will include a raffle and is a wonderful opportunity to connect with local business leaders while supporting a great cause. To attend the evening event please purchase <u>tickets online</u> or at the door.

Second Harvest Food Bank's mission is to inspire and support Santa Cruz County to provide nourishment for all community members. Your donations and attendance will not only foster professional connections but also contribute to a meaningful cause in our community.

"At Santa Cruz METRO, we believe in the power of community and giving back," said Corey Aldridge, METRO CEO. "The Stuff the Bus Food Drive is an excellent opportunity for us to come together and make a real impact on the lives of those in need. We are proud to support this initiative and look forward to the community's participation."

Let's come together to make this holiday season brighter for everyone. We hope to see you there!

For more information and to register for the Chamber's holiday business after-hours event at Woodstock's Pizza, visit https://web.santacruzchamber.org/events/Holiday-Business-After-Hours-Food-Drive-Woodstocks-Pizza-6406/details.



About Us

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)

Established in 1968, METRO'S mission is to provide easy-to-use, convenient transportation for residents while protecting the environment and building better communities. 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 operates a fleet of 104 buses on 22 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 <u>scmetro.org.</u>