

For Immediate Release  
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**Santa Cruz METRO Supports Earth Day with Free Fares Countywide  
Friday, April 22, 2022**

**Santa Cruz, CA (Monday, April 18, 2022)** - The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) is supporting Earth Day, by offering free fares countywide on all fixed-route, ParaCruz, and Highway 17 Express services on Friday, April 22, 2022.

Since 2002, METRO has been a leader in adopting a more sustainable fleet of buses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by initially moving to compressed natural gas and hybrid vehicles. Most recently, in the fall of 2021, METRO furthered its commitment to “going green” by deploying METRO’s first four electric buses into service.

METRO is celebrating and raising awareness of Earth Day by offering free fares countywide on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, to assist our community in getting to their Earth Day destinations while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This promotion is a simple reminder that everyone has a role in clearing the air and increasing the health of our community by using alternate forms of transportation whether it be public transit, riding a bike, or carpooling to our destinations.

If you have not used METRO services in the past we encourage you try us out free while reducing greenhouse gas emissions in support of Earth Day on Friday, April 22, 2022.

METRO continues to follow public health guidelines from official sources such as CDC, State, and local guidance whenever possible to support safe travel. Including cleaning and disinfecting transit vehicles frequently and requiring face coverings per TSA’s Mask Mandate Security Directive. In addition, METRO puts health first by requiring riders and employees to avoid public transit if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or feel ill.

For more information on METRO visit [scmttd.com](http://scmttd.com) or to view METRO’s current schedule visit [scmttd.com/en/routes/schedule](http://scmttd.com/en/routes/schedule).

**DUMP THE PUMP**  
**FREE FARES**  
*Countywide*  
APRIL 22, 2022

**EARTH DAY**  
APRIL 22, 2022

**SANTA CRUZ METRO**  
[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.scmtd.com](http://www.scmtd.com). Like METRO on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SantaCruzMETRO](https://www.facebook.com/SantaCruzMETRO) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/SantaCruzMETRO](https://www.twitter.com/SantaCruzMETRO).

\*Reflect pre-pandemic ridership numbers