



RT Experiences Record Ridership

With the price of gas ever-increasing, more and more drivers are making the transition to public transit. In April 2008, RT reported a 20 percent jump in total ridership compared to April 2007!

For the first time since RT began operating light rail in 1987, light rail ridership has exceeded bus ridership. In April 2008, RT's light rail system served 1,534,000 riders – up 43.3 percent from April 2007!

RT's bus system served 1,429,400 riders in April 2008, which is a 2.5 percent increase over April 2007, despite a recent 5 percent reduction in bus service.

RT would like to take this opportunity to welcome new passengers and thank long-standing passengers for your patronage!

Next Stop News is produced monthly by the Sacramento Regional Transit District to keep passengers informed about current RT news and community events.

E-mail questions or comments about Next Stop News to nextstopnews@sacrt.com

NEXT STOP NEWS



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JUNE 2008

Back to School with RT

Beat the rush and get your RT Student photo ID card before the school year begins!

RT Student photo ID cards can be obtained at RT's Customer Service and Sales Center located at 1225 R Street (adjacent to the 13th Street light rail station). The cost is only \$2 during the months of June, July and August. Students (age 5 to 18) must show proof of school enrollment, or be accompanied by a parent or guardian to receive an RT Student photo ID card.

By purchasing your RT Student photo ID card in advance, you can ride RT at the discount rate all summer long. Monthly and Semi-monthly student stickers (fare) can be purchased at retail outlets throughout the Sacramento region (stickers must be affixed to a valid RT Student photo ID card). Imagine all the places you can go...the movies, shopping and more!

Customer Service and Sales Center
1225 R Street
(Adjacent to the 13th Street light rail station)
Weekdays: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed Sundays and most holidays.

Meadowview Jazz and Cultural Festival

Take Routes 54, 55 or 56 to the 15th Annual Meadowview Jazz and Cultural Festival on Saturday, June 28! The event will take place at the Cosumnes River College Stadium (8401 Center Parkway) from noon to 8 p.m.

This year's lineup is headlined by the Bar-Kays and Cameo, and a host of other local bands and musicians will also perform. In addition to performances, the festival features children's activities, exhibitor booths, food and cultural displays.

For more information on the Meadowview Jazz and Cultural Festival, call 916-808-7008 or visit www.cityofsacramento.org.

Family Safety & Health Expo **USA** Safetyville

Join RT at Safetyville USA for the 10th Annual Family Safety and Health Expo! The event will take place on Saturday, June 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 3909 Bradshaw Road.

The Family Safety & Health Expo provides families with easy access to health, safety and recreational resources that are available throughout the Sacramento region. Admission to the Expo is free, and attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy over 80 informational booths, interactive displays and live entertainment.

Remember to stop by RT's booth!

For additional event information, call 916-366-7233 ext. 203 or visit www.safetycenter.org.



Rancho Cordova 4th of July Celebration

Celebrate our nation's Independence Day during the 24th Annual Rancho Cordova 4th of July Celebration from July 3 through July 5, 2008 at Hagan Park.

Family entertainment during the three-day event includes a carnival; hometown parade; kids' zone; live musical performances by Hip Service, Felix Cavaliere's Rascals and The Turtles; and, of course, the region's longest and best fireworks display!

Avoid parking hassles and take RT to the event. Ride light rail to the Mather Field/Mills light rail station, then board Route 221 to the event.

For more information, call 916-408-1704 or visit www.ranchocordovajuly4th.com.

Governor's Budget Hurts Transit

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger released his May Revise for the 08 / 09 budget and the news is not good for transit. With ridership surging, the Governor has responded by, once again, cutting transit funding. If the budget moves through as proposed, the result for transit agencies throughout the State, including RT, will likely be another round of service cuts, route eliminations, job loss and an inability to move ahead with many Capital projects.

As it currently stands, the Governor's 08 / 09 budget proposal will result in an expected loss of \$18 million in transit funds to RT. This represents a 12 percent reduction in RT's proposed operating budget and comes on the heels of a \$14 million loss in the current budget year. The current year loss resulted in a 5 percent cut in transit services this past January. These cuts were in addition to RT hiring freezes (over 100 positions), travel restrictions and no cost of living increases for management and administrative staff.

With the recent increase in gas prices, RT has seen record ridership figures in 2008. At a time when more people are looking to transit for relief, many people feel that RT should be adding service, not eliminating it.

The State Assembly and Senate will be debating the budget over the next several weeks. Those wishing to express an opinion may do so by contacting their state elected officials and the Governor. As a public service and informational tool, RT has set up a link on its Web site (www.sacrt.com) to assist you. Click on the "budget plan" link to review the budget fact sheet and sample letter that can be used to assist riders.

Transit Rally

**Tuesday, June 17
10 a.m.
State Capitol**

The Governor's proposed \$18 million raid of RT's budget may result in 10 percent more service cuts.

Cops for Kids Fly-In

On Wednesday, June 4, RT's Police Services department will participate in the Third Annual Cops for Kids Fly-In event. Hosted by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department Air Operations Bureau and co-hosted by the Sacramento Police Department's Air Operations, the Cops for Kids Fly-In is an extraordinary program that benefits local hospitalized children. Toys are donated and collected throughout the month of May from local law enforcement professionals, community members and RT employees then delivered to patients at the UC Davis Children's Hospital and the Shriners Hospital for Children.

On the day of the event, volunteers from law enforcement agencies throughout Sacramento County and the surrounding region will fly in helicopters and airplanes, and drive vehicles to Mather Airport to compile the gifts. RT buses will then transport the officers and toys to the UC Davis and Shriners children's hospitals, where officers will have the chance to meet these heroic children and deliver their special gifts in person.

To donate a new, unwrapped toy for the Cops for Kids Fly-In or for more information, please call 916-875-7046.

Rider Alert



www.Fix I-5.com

RT Light Rail and Bus Information for Caltrans Fix I-5 Project

RT encourages commuters to ride transit during the Caltrans Fix I-5 construction project, which will close the one-mile "boat section" of Interstate 5 (I-5) in downtown Sacramento at various times through July 15, 2008. Funding from Caltrans will allow RT to operate additional light rail and bus service during the construction period to add capacity and improve service reliability.

Light Rail Service

RT will add six light rail trips during peak commute hours (6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) -- three trips on the Blue Line from Meadowview to K Street and three trips on the Gold Line from Sunrise to the Sacramento Valley Station/Amtrak.

Free parking is available at 18 RT park-and-ride lots (7,379 spaces) throughout the light rail system. For I-5 commuters traveling from Elk Grove and south Sacramento, RT recommends parking at the Florin light rail station (1,076 spaces) located on Florin Road between 24th Street and Franklin Boulevard. Passengers should be advised that the Meadowview light rail station fills up quickly during the morning commute. Free parking is also available at the 47th Avenue light rail station.

For Highway 50 commuters traveling from Folsom and Rancho Cordova, RT recommends parking at the Hazel light rail station (432 spaces) located on Folsom Boulevard between Aerojet Road and Hazel Avenue. Passengers should be advised that the Historic Folsom, Glenn and Iron Point light rail stations fill up quickly during the morning commute. Free parking is also available at the Sunrise, Butterfield and Watt/Manlove light rail stations.

For Interstate 80 (I-80) commuters traveling from Roseville, Antelope and Citrus Heights, RT recommends parking at the Watt/I-80 light rail station (243 spaces) accessible from "Light Rail Exit 94" via I-80 westbound (left-hand lane). All park-and-ride lots along the I-80 corridor have available spaces, with the exception of the Arden/Del Paso light rail station.

Bus Service

RT currently operates 97 bus routes throughout the Sacramento region. Ten buses will be on standby and dispatched to various routes as needed during peak commute hours. With the increase in vehicle traffic on city streets, RT buses may be detoured as necessary. Due to possible delays, passengers should take an earlier trip, if possible.

Route 15 (Rio Linda Boulevard – O Street) will be detoured to 7th Street. Routes 3, 7, 11, 86, 88 and 89 may also be affected.

Detour information will be posted each day as a "Rider Alert" at www.sacrt.com.