

**For Immediate Release**

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**METRO Offers Free Fares to Big Basin’s Art in the Park Event**  
*Free Fares on Route 35B on Saturday, June 15th*

Santa Cruz, CA (June 6, 2024): Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) will be offering free fares on Route 35B to Big Basin State Park on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> for their annual Art in the Park summer event. The event will run from 10AM to 2PM, where attendees can view art of all kinds inspired by Big Basin’s recovery and created by the 17 Art About artists as well as purchase lunch from onsite food trucks (cash only). METRO’s Route 35B service will be free for the day with the first trip departing Scotts Valley Transit Center at 7:55AM. The last return trip will depart Big Basin State Park at 5PM.

“We're thrilled to bring back weekend service to Big Basin on Route 35B this summer and fall. This initiative not only makes it easier for our community to enjoy the park, but also supports our commitment to sustainable, car-free travel options,” said Corey Aldridge, METRO CEO/General Manager.

**FREE ROUTE 35B SERVICE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> TO/FROM BIG BASIN:**

**Departs Scotts Valley Transit Center:**

7:55AM  
8:55AM  
9:55AM  
11:10AM  
12:10PM  
1:10PM  
2:10PM

**Departs Big Basin:**

8:45 AM  
9:45 AM  
10:45 AM  
12 PM  
1 PM  
2 PM  
3 PM  
5 PM

Once at the event, stop by the METRO booth to learn more about our services and programs. Attendees will also have a chance to see METRO’s wrapped "One Ride at a Time" buses featuring iconic images of the Monterey Bay by National Geographic photographer Frans Lanting, including stunning shots of the redwood grove taken at Big Basin. For more information on METRO’s free service to Big Basin’s Art in the Park event visit [scmetro.org/bigbasinart](http://scmetro.org/bigbasinart).

For those unable to attend the June 15<sup>th</sup> event, METRO will continue to offer service to Big Basin State Park every weekend this summer and fall on Route 35B to explore California’s

oldest state park. To further encourage visitation, day-use parking at the Scotts Valley Transit Center is free. For more information on Santa Cruz METRO's Route 35B service, visit the [Route 35B schedule page](#) or for more information on METRO visit [scmetro.org](http://scmetro.org).

For more information about Big Basin's Art in the Park event, visit [www.castateparkweek.org](http://www.castateparkweek.org).

## 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 operates a fleet of 104 buses on 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](http://scmetro.org)

### **METRO's One Ride at a Time Program**

One Ride at a Time (ORAT) gives bus riders the opportunity to protect the Monterey Bay's extraordinary natural resources just by riding the bus. Thanks to ORAT, every ride on a METRO bus contributes to the agency's partners in protecting the environment, the [Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation](#) and the [Bay of Life Fund](#) through the [GO Santa Cruz](#) ridesharing incentive program. To participate, riders simply need to log 25 rides to make a \$10 contribution to one of METRO's local environmental non-profit partners. To learn more about METRO's One Ride at a Time program visit [scmetro.org/onerideatime](http://scmetro.org/onerideatime).