

For Immediate Release

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Santa Cruz METRO Hosts Annual Stuff the Bus Food Drive

In Partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce, and

Woodstock's Pizza

December 3rd, 2025

Santa Cruz, CA (November 25th, 2025) – The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) is proud to announce its annual Stuff the Bus Food Drive, returning this year in partnership with Woodstock's Pizza, Second Harvest Food Bank, and Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce to support local families facing food insecurity during the holiday season. The event will take place on Tuesday, December 3, with community food collection from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM, followed by a private Chamber after-hours gathering from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Woodstock's Pizza, located at 710 Front Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

A METRO bus will be parked outside Woodstock's Pizza throughout the afternoon as volunteers work to fill it with non-perishable food donations. Community members are encouraged to drop off contributions such as canned meats, peanut butter, soups, chili, beans, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, whole-grain rice, pasta, and oats.

All food collected will benefit local families through METRO's nonprofit partners, helping ensure that more households have access to nutritious meals this holiday season.

"At Santa Cruz METRO, we're committed to strengthening the community we serve," said Rebecca Downing, METRO Board Chair. "Stuff the Bus is a meaningful opportunity for all of us to come together and support our neighbors facing food insecurity. We're proud to champion this effort and look forward to rallying alongside the community to make a lasting impact."

As a thank-you for participating, each donor will receive a complimentary 1-Ride bus pass from METRO.

Following the public collection period, the Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce will host a private holiday business after-hours event from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM inside Woodstock's Pizza. This gathering—also supporting the food-drive effort, will include networking opportunities and a raffle. Chamber members wishing to attend the after-hours event may [purchase tickets online](#) or at the door.

METRO, Woodstock's Pizza, and partnering organizations invite the community to join in making a positive difference.

Let's come together to make this holiday season brighter for families across Santa Cruz County, one can at a time. METRO looks forward to seeing you there. [To learn more visit the Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce website.](#)



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.