

# Phase 1 – METRO’s Existing Service as of March 2024

METRO’s services were improved in late 2023, including:

- **Higher frequency at UCSC.** In September 2023, METRO introduced service every 15 minutes on Routes 18 and 19.
- **Simpler and more direct service between Santa Cruz and Watsonville.** Routes 1 and 2 now offer faster service from Watsonville to Santa Cruz, by both taking Highway 1 between Watsonville and Aptos. Route 90X provides added express service at peak hours.
- **Simpler and more frequent service in Watsonville.** Most Watsonville residents now live near a route that runs at least every 30 minutes on weekdays.
- **East-west service in Santa Cruz.** Route 3 provides direct service between UCSC, Downtown Santa Cruz, and Live Oak.
- **More direct service between the San Lorenzo Valley and Santa Cruz.** All trips on Route 35 now head directly to Downtown Santa Cruz. Emeline St is served by Route 4.

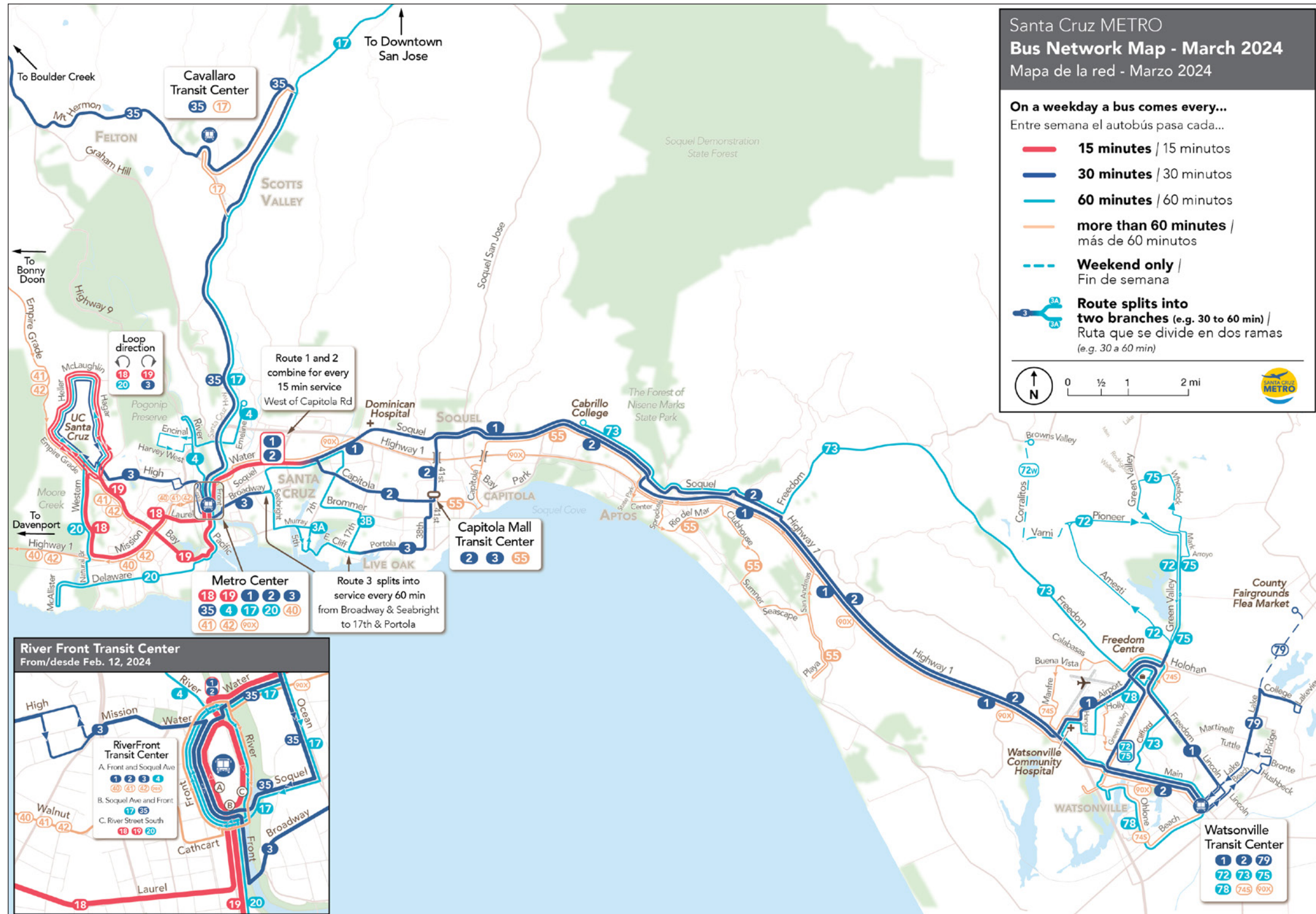


Figure 4: Santa Cruz METRO core network map, as of March 2024. This map features most of the urbanized areas in Santa Cruz County, including Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz, Watsonville, and all areas in between.

## March 2024 Improvements

METRO will complete Phase 1 of Reimagine METRO in March with:

- **More evening service.** Routes 2 and 3B will provide service until midnight.
- **More express service.** Route 90X will operate 6 morning trips and 6 evening trips, in both directions.
- **New Route 78.** New all-day service on West Beach Street, Ohlone Parkway, and to the new County Social Service offices at Westridge. This route will also serve Watsonville Community Hospital and Freedom Centre.