

For Immediate Release
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Santa Cruz METRO Hosts Holiday “Stuff the Bus” Donation Site

Santa Cruz, CA (Tuesday, November 23, 2021) – The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO) in partnership with local non-profit, Toys For Tots, is set to host METRO’s first “Stuff the Bus” donation site this holiday season.

METRO and Toys For Tots are collaborating this holiday season to collect donations in the form of new and unwrapped toys for our community’s youth. Donations can be any new, unwrapped gender-neutral gift such as board games, soccer balls, bikes and crafts. With this year’s focus particularly on children ranging between 0 -2 years of age and 11 – 14 years of age.

“Since starting at METRO I have been eager to establish a “Stuff the Bus” event to support our local community so I am particularly excited that METRO will be partnering with Toys For Tots this holiday season for our very first “Stuff the Bus” event. Giving back to the community has always been a priority for METRO and hosting events like these are one of the ways we support that commitment.” – Alex Clifford, METRO CEO/General Manager

Donations will be collected Saturday, December 11th at the Target in Watsonville located at 1415 Main Street, Watsonville, CA from 11:00AM to 4:00PM. Donations will be collected by METRO, Toys For Tots, and Watsonville Fire Department and placed inside a METRO bus for delivery to the Toys For Tots donation site to be distributed locally through neighborhood service agencies and other local non-profits that screen applicants based on need.

Come join METRO and show your support for our community’s youth by making an onsite donation Saturday, December 11th at the Target in Watsonville.

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About Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District:

Established in 1968, Santa Cruz METRO provides 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 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 it operates a fleet of 94 buses on at least 24 fixed-routes. For more information, visit www.scmttd.com. Like METRO on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SantaCruzMETRO or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/SantaCruzMETRO.

About Toys For Tots:

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, now in its 73rd year, was developed for the simple purpose of spreading holiday cheer to children in need. In communities where no Reserve unit exists, volunteers and business leaders continue the tradition of providing the gift of hope to area children. In Santa Cruz County, Watsonville and Aptos/LaSelva Fire Departments, with assistance from Boulder Creek Fire, CAL Fire Corralitos & Pajaro Dunes, and partners throughout the county, have continued the mission and invite the public in delivering a message of hope, building self-esteem and mentoring children living in poverty by exposing them to the positive examples of courage.

Donations are distributed locally through neighborhood service agencies, churches, and non-profits that screen applicants based on need. For more information, visit www.santacruzcounty.toysfortots.org or like Toys For Tots on Facebook at www.facebook.com/santacruzcountytoysfortots.