

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 24, 2023
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Carmen Alba, VP, Bus Operations
SUBJ: CELEBRATING THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Attached Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact as the estimated reduction in fare revenue **will be reimbursed as part of the grant that was provided by Caltrans and California Air Resources Board (CARB) through the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), which allows SacRT to offer a limited number of systemwide free ride days on all of our Sacramento services, including light rail, bus, SmaRT Ride and SacRT GO paratransit services through Fiscal Year 2024.** ~~is already included in the FY 2024 Operating Budget. The Board of Directors previously approved RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02-017 "Delegating authority to the General Manager/CEO to authorized up to 10 Free Ride Days per calendar year on bus and/or light rail to encourage ridership."~~

DISCUSSION

On July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for individuals with disabilities, when he signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a significant milestone in the progress towards equality and inclusion for people with disabilities. This date marks the official beginning of the ADA's enactment and the start of its implementation in the United States. The ADA was the result of extensive advocacy efforts by disability rights activists and organizations who pushed for comprehensive legislation to protect the rights and promote the inclusion and independence of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of daily life. Its passage was a significant milestone in advancing disability rights and has remained a crucial piece of legislation to this day. July 26th is recognized annually as National Disability Independence Day, commemorating the signing of the ADA into law.

In recognition of this historic milestone, the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) is offering a **Systemwide** Free Ride Day on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, on National Disability Independence Day, ~~as authorized under Resolution No. 2023-02-017.~~ The systemwide free rides will be available on fixed-route bus, light rail, SmaRT Ride and SacRT GO and SacRT e-van paratransit services.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07-075

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

July 24, 2023

CELEBRATING THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the enactment of the ADA the United States of America (USA) created the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, this landmark legislation has been a driving force in moving America closer to the promise of equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for the 61 million individuals with disabilities in the USA; and

WHEREAS, the ADA prohibits disability discrimination by State and local governments; provides standards for access to places of public accommodation; protects people with disabilities from discrimination in the workplace; and ensures equal access to health care, social services, transportation, and telecommunications; and

WHEREAS, the ADA enshrines the idea that everyone is deserving of equal dignity, respect, and opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, we celebrate the 33rd anniversary of the ADA, reflect on the progress made and renew the commitment to achieving the ADA's full promise of advancing disability equity, dignity, access, and inclusion.

PATRICK KENNEDY, Chair

A T T E S T:
HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary