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Contact: Danielle Glagola
(831) 420-2550
dglagola@scmttd.com
scmttd.com



Santa Cruz METRO CEO Announces Retirement from METRO

Santa Cruz, CA (Friday, November 19, 2021) – The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District’s (METRO) CEO/General Manager, Alex Clifford, announces retirement from METRO after seven and a half years in the position.

During METRO’s November 19th Board of Directors Meeting, Alex Clifford, METRO CEO/General Manager announced that he will be retiring from METRO on January 21, 2022 and moving to the position of CEO at San Joaquin RTD.

Over the past seven and a half years at METRO, CEO Clifford has accomplished much for the agency including resolving a structural deficit with no layoffs, finalizing the Judy K. Souza Operations Building, rehabilitating the Watsonville Transit Center, starting the agency’s first zero-emission bus service on the new Watsonville Circulator route, and much more.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, CEO Clifford developed rotating shifts for operators, avoided layoffs and furloughs, and initiated many added safety and prevention measures for agency’s staff and METRO riders.

Over the coming weeks METRO’s Board of Directors and staff will work together to develop next steps in filling the CEO position.

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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.