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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 21, 2015 Contact: Robert Lyles 415.470.1891, cell paul.rose@sfmta.com

> **PRESS RELEASE** **Ride Muni Free New Year's Eve**

16 Year Tradition Encourages Responsible Celebration

San Francisco--For the 16th consecutive year, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) will offer free rides on New Year's Eve from 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 31 through 5 a.m. on Friday, January 1.

"We wish all San Francisco residents and visitors a happy and safe New Year. During the celebrations enjoy yourself, but don't drink and drive. Muni will be available for free to get you around the city and back on New Year's Eve," said Ed Reiskin, SFMTA Director of Transportation.

This year's Ride Muni Free New Year's Eve is sponsored by 76.

"We are thrilled to continue our partnership with SFMTA for Ride Muni Free on New Year's Eve. As a brand that puts our focus on being on the driver's side, we know there are times when being a passenger is best. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season," said Sarah Bolding, 76 Brand Manager.

Ride Muni Free New Year's Eve includes all Muni routes and lines. You can find all information, including schedules, posted on www.sfmta.com/nye. Clipper Card customers should NOT tap their cards to make sure they don't get charged. Muni Mobile passes will not be necessary. Metro fare gates will be set for fare-free that night.

New Year's Eve Muni Service:

- Complimentary Muni service from 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 31 to 5 a.m. on Friday, January 1.
- Extra Owl service (1 a.m. to 5 a.m.): 5 Fulton, 14 Mission, 22 Fillmore, 24 Divisadero, 38 Geary, 90 and 91 Owl and the L and N Owl bus routes.
- Service on the F Market historic streetcar line is provided by buses after • approximately 4 p.m.
- Service on cable cars will be provided by buses after approximately 4 p.m.
- Extra 1 California service will operate between Presidio Ave and Drum Street from 7 p.m. until 3 a.m.
- Late night transit services will also be available from our regional transit partners: AC Transit, BART, and SamTrans.

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415.701.4500

At midnight on New Year's Eve, there will be a city-sponsored fireworks show from a barge off of The Embarcadero, south of the Ferry Building. Motorists should anticipate delays in the area from approximately 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. No closures or re-routes are planned. SFPD and SFMTA will monitor for any necessary re-routes. For details, please visit www.sfmta.com.

The ongoing Blue Light Emergency Telephone and Radio System Replacement Projects in the subway will not take place on New Year's Eve, December 31. Muni subway will be open for train service until 4 a.m., the next day. This will provide easy and quick transportation service for party goers to travel to and from overnight celebration at the waterfront.

BART will provide additional service until approximately 3 a.m., January 1. After 8 p.m. BART service to and from the East Bay will be separated between Embarcadero and Montgomery stations. Pittsburg/Bay Point and Richmond trains will depart from Montgomery Station only. Dublin/Pleasanton and Fremont trains will depart from Embarcadero Station only. Daly City and Millbrae trains will depart from Montgomery Station. Passengers going to SFO Airport from Embarcadero Station will need to transfer to an airport train at Balboa Park. SFO passengers may also enter BART at Montgomery Station for a direct SFO Airport train. Dublin/Pleasanton and Fremont trains will not stop at West Oakland and will make their first East Bay stop Lake Merritt after the fireworks end. There are no special fares for this service. For more details, please visit <u>www.bart.gov</u>.

Caltrain will run four post-midnight trains, departing San Francisco at 12:45 a.m., 1:15 a.m., 1:45 a.m. and 2:15 a.m., or when full. Caltrain service will be free after 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve and continue until 5 a.m. For more details, please visit <u>www.caltrain.com</u>.

SamTrans will run its regular non-school day service on New Year's Eve and will offer free rides beginning at 8 p.m. on December 31 until 5 a.m. on January 1. For more details, please visit <u>http://www.samtrans.com</u>.

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Established by voter proposition in 1999, the SFMTA, a department of the City and County of San Francisco, oversees the Municipal Railway (Muni), parking and traffic, bicycling, walking and taxis. With five modes of transit, Muni has approximately 700,000 passenger boardings each day. Over 1 million people get around this city each day and rely on the SFMTA to ensure safe and reliable travel by transit, walking, bicycling, taxi and driving.