



May 2007

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM

ORGANIZATION

- Creation* The Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB) was created in 1975 by the passage of California Senate Bill 101 and came into existence on January 1, 1976. In 1984, the Governor signed Senate Bill 1736, which expanded the MTD Board of Directors from 8 to 15 members. In 2002, Senate Bill 1703 merged MTDB's planning, financial programming, project development, and construction functions into a new regional agency known as the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). In 2005, MTDB changed its name to the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS).
- Board of Directors* 15-member Board generally meets twice a month. Members selected as follows:
 - 4 appointed from the San Diego City Council
 - 1 appointed from each city council of Chula Vista, Coronado, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, and Santee
 - 1 appointed from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors
 - 1 San Diego County resident elected by other Board members to serve as Chairman
- Subsidiary Corporations* MTS owns assets of: San Diego Trolley, Inc. (SDTI) - the light rail transit (LRT) operator; San Diego Transit Corporation (SDTC) - the region's major bus operator; the San Diego & Arizona Eastern (SD&AE) Railway Company, which owns 108 miles of track and right-of-way; and San Diego Vintage Trolley, Inc., a non profit corporation established to restore historic trolley vehicles.
- Area of Jurisdiction* About 570 square miles of the urbanized areas of San Diego County as well as the rural parts of East County, 3240 total square miles, serving approximately 3 million people in San Diego County.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provision of Transit Services* MTS provides bus and rail services directly or by contract with public or private operators. MTS determines the routing, stops, frequency of service, and hours of operation for its existing services.
 - Light Rail* Light rail service is operated by SDTI on three lines (the Blue, Orange, and Green Lines) with a total of 53 stations and 53.5 total miles.
 - Bus* 82 fixed-bus routes operated by SDTC, MTS Contract Services, and Chula Vista Transit. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit service is provided by MTS Access and ADA Suburban Paratransit.
 - Freight* MTS contracts with the San Diego & Imperial Valley (SD&IV) Railroad and the Carrizo Gorge Railway (CZRY) to provide freight service to San Diego shippers over SD&AE right-of-way. SD&IV shares certain tracks with SDTI, operating during nonservice trolley hours.
 - Operating* Approximately \$213 million; \$72 million comes from fares. Fare revenue accounts for 34% of annual operating cost, which is one of the highest fare box recovery ratios among similar transit systems.
 - Ridership Cost* 86 million annual passengers, or 275,000 each weekday. MTS provides approximately 2.4 million hours of service across 31 million miles each year.
- Planning and Scheduling* MTS is responsible for the service planning, scheduling, and performance monitoring of all MTS transit services.
- Funding* MTS receives funding from various federal, state, and local sources. The primary sources are the California Transportation Development Act (TDA), the Federal section 5307 and 5309 (preventative maintenance funds), State Transit Assistance (STA) and TransNet funds (local sales tax). These funds are pooled with other federal, state, and local monies used to fund operating and capital requirements for the MTS operators.
- Taxicab Administration* MTS licenses and regulates taxicabs, jitneys, and other private for-hire passenger transportation services by contract with the cities of San Diego, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Poway, and Santee.

