



April 2015

Metropolitan Transit System MTS Bus Operations

ORGANIZATION	MTS operates 94 fixed-routes in southern San Diego County with a fleet of 797 buses. Twenty-four routes are directly operated and 70 routes are operated by private contractors. (FY15)
BOARD	The MTS Board is composed of 15 members; four representing the City of San Diego, one from the County of San Diego and nine from the suburban cities.
HISTORY	Service began in 1886 as the San Diego Streetcar Company. Over the years, this and several other entities were merged into the San Diego Electric Railway (later, the San Diego Transit Corporation (SDTC)). The City of San Diego purchased SDTC from private ownership in 1967, and transferred it to the Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB) in 1985. In 2002, Senate Bill 1703 merged MTDB's planning, financial programming, project development and construction functions into the region's metropolitan planning organization, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). In 2005, MTDB changed its name to the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS).
OPERATIONS	<p>MTS Bus operated 21,206,493 revenue miles with an operating budget of \$165.1 million in FY14.</p> <p><i>Fare Revenue</i> \$59.3 million in FY14.</p> <p><i>Ridership</i> 54,914,063 fixed route and 417,717 MTS Access riders in FY14.</p> <p><i>Routes</i> Three <i>Rapid</i> Express, three <i>Rapid</i>, eight Express, 27 Urban Frequent, 37 Urban Standard, 12 Community Circulator and four Rural.</p> <p><i>Service Area</i> MTS Bus operates 1,350 route-miles over a 716 square-mile service area, with a combined population of more than two million people within the cities of San Diego, Chula Vista, Coronado, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City, Lemon Grove, Poway and Santee, as well as the County of San Diego. MTS bus routes connect with North County Transit District (NCTD) bus and rail routes as well as the San Diego Trolley.</p> <p><i>Service Levels</i> Service is provided seven days a week on most routes. In general, the service frequency increases during peak hours and decreases during evenings, weekends and holidays. An urban core network of routes operates every 15 minutes (or better) on weekdays.</p> <p><i>Fare Collection</i> All fixed-route buses accept Compass Cards, cash and tokens. MTS Access vehicles accept cash and paper tickets. Most buses have fareboxes and a Compass Card reader that validates pass products and can load a 1-Day Pass onto a Compass Card.</p> <p><i>Fares</i> Fixed Route: Riders can purchase either a one-way or a 1-Day Pass.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-way fares are \$2.25, \$2.50, \$5 or \$10 depending on type of service. • A 1-Day Pass is \$5 for local, urban, Express and <i>Rapid</i> routes with a Compass Card (\$7 without) and \$12 for <i>Rapid</i> Express routes. • Adult monthly (calendar or 30-day) pass price is \$72 (local, urban, Express and <i>Rapid</i>) and \$100 (<i>Rapid</i> Express) • Discount monthly pass prices for youth and for Senior/Disabled/Medicare (S/D/M) riders are made possible by <i>TransNet</i> (the local transportation sales tax measure). A Youth Pass (ages 6-18) is discounted 50 percent and an S/D/M Pass is discounted 75 percent. A rider with a discount pass must show approved ID. <p>MTS Access: Certified riders pay a \$4.50 one-way fare.</p> <p><i>Bus Stops</i> Routes serve approx. 4,200 bus stops.</p> <p><i>Park and Ride</i> Many Trolley stations, transit centers and bus stops throughout the MTS service area have Park & Ride facilities where transit patrons can park for free or for a charge. Riders should visit www.sdmts.com for the most current information available on Park & Ride facilities.</p>
FACILITIES	<p>MTS Bus has five bus fleet operating divisions, all of which include operations, maintenance and fueling functions: Imperial Avenue Division (IAD); Kearny Mesa Division (KMD); South Bay Bus Maintenance Facility (SBMF); East County Bus Maintenance Facility (ECBMF); and Copley Park Maintenance Facility (CPMF).</p> <p><i>CPMF</i> Operates fixed-route mini-buses on lower-volume routes, and MTS ADA complementary paratransit service, MTS Access.</p>



VEHICLE	<i>ECBMF</i>	This 57,500 square-foot facility is currently being expanded and improved to accommodate 120 buses, and will include a new CNG fueling station. From ECBMF, MTS operates fixed-route bus service primarily in the East County area, as well as Rural bus services and <i>Rapid Express</i> routes.
	<i>IAD</i>	This 86,300 square-foot facility in Downtown San Diego houses the main administrative offices of MTS Bus Operations, including a training center and the MTS Information and Trip Planning Office & Compass Card Service Center. It is also a working division, with almost 200 buses and fueling capabilities for CNG, diesel and gasoline.
	<i>KMD</i>	This 54,166 square-foot division in Kearny Mesa houses more than 100 buses and includes diesel and CNG fueling stations, as well as a body and paint shop.
	<i>SBMF</i>	This 48,000 square-foot facility has a capacity of up to 250 CNG buses. It operates routes throughout the region, with a concentration in South Bay, including 41 buses on six routes within the City of Chula Vista. The maintenance and operations facility has been expanded to accommodate more maintenance bays, office and training space, and the ability to service articulated buses. It is built to LEED Silver standard, including a state-of-the-art buswash.
	<i>Fleet</i>	MTS Bus has a total of 797 buses; 483 are powered by compressed natural gas, 12 are gasoline/electric hybrid and the remaining are gasoline or diesel-powered.
SPECIAL SERVICES	<i>Fixed Route</i>	624 buses: 446 standard 40-foot buses; 25 45-foot over-the road coaches; 86 60-foot articulated buses; and 67 smaller buses (29- to 35-foot).
	<i>Paratransit</i>	173 minibuses
	<i>ADA</i>	All buses are equipped with a lift or ramp for boarding mobility-impaired riders; most buses have a kneeling feature, and 557 buses offer low-floor access. Braille or raised-type route information is available at most regional transit centers. MTS Information and Trip Planning Office offers teletype trip planning information to hearing-impaired customers.
	<i>Bicycles</i>	Most MTS buses, except paratransit and <i>Rapid Express</i> , are equipped with front-loading bicycle racks. Bicycle lockers are available at some transit centers.
	<i>Customer Information</i>	The MTS Information and Trip Planning Office & Compass Card Service Center office is staffed 363 days a year to respond to approximately one million calls annually.
PERSONNEL	<i>The Transit Store</i>	More than 350,000 customers visit the MTS Transit Store (located at First Ave. and Broadway, in Downtown San Diego), every year to purchase monthly passes, tickets, identification cards, retrieve lost articles or get information. Sales exceeded \$4.1 million in FY14.
	<i>Employees</i>	885 total: 559 bus operators; 175 maintenance; 151 administration and supervision



MTS Rapid New Flyer XN60 Articulated Bus



Standard 40' Bus



Articulated Bus



MTS Access Minibus