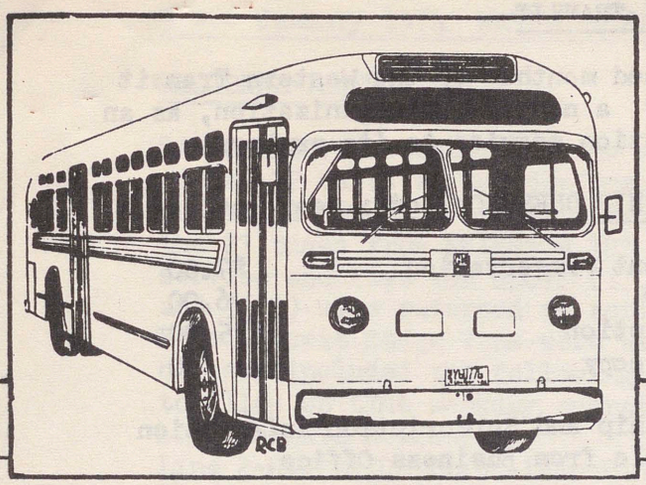


Western Transit

Monthly Publication of The Western Transit Society

Vol. 12 No. 1 January 1974

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BUS OPERATIONS

Last year, as in the past, several California transit properties operated specially decorated buses for the Christmas season. SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL BUS LINES 5351 (TDH 5303), A C TRANSIT 512 (TDH 5301) and LONG BEACH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY 4568 (T6H 4521) all ran as red and white striped Candy Cane buses. The Montclair Chamber of Commerce also ran service for the third year. This year, rather than operating fixed routes, the Chamber ran a free Dial A Ride service leasing two 10 passenger Chevrolet Vans from PALOMAR TRANSPORTATION of Upland. This service operated weekdays 1000AM/530PM from November 26th thru December 21st. To order the bus a prospective patron called the Chamber who dispatched the van by radio. The City of Huntington Park again sponsored a free SHOPPERS SPECIAL service along Pacific Boulevard six days a week using AIRPORTRANSIT Minibuses. Financed by the city treasury Temple City sponsored a 13 day trial of intracity bus service using two buses leased from EMBREE BUSES, INC. (usually 114-117, 24 seat Ford/Superiors). Nicknamed the "Temple Trolley" the buses ran Monday/Saturday 1000AM/500PM from December 7th to December 24th with a 25 cent fare. Downtown merchants provided their customers with tokens for a free ride home.

BLUE BUS LINES (Betty Jean Tibbetts d/b/a) (BBL)

WILLITS: BBL has filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission to run between Willits and Calpella to the north and Laytonville on the south. One GMC TDH 4507 would be used. Fares would range from 35 cents to $2.00 for one way trips and several round trips would be operated on each route. Tibbetts operates the Blue Cab Company in Willitts.

LEWIS TRAVEL CENTER (Ellsworth Lewis d/b/a) (LTC)

VISALIA: LTC is seeking a certificate to operate between Visalia and Fresno Municipal Airport with no service to intermediate points. Two round trips would operate daily:

350 PM	510 AM	Lv	Visalia	Ar	955 AM	740 PM
500 PM	620 AM	Ar	Fresno Airport	Lv	845 AM	630 PM

A one way fare of $6.00 is proposed and one 1974 Dodge Royal Sportsman Maxivan would be used. CONTINENTAL WESTERN LINES operates two round trips per day between Visalia and downtown Fresno. GREYHOUND LINES-WEST also runs two trips plus additional service using ORANGE BELT STAGES between Visalia and Goshen Junction. No direct service is provided to the Fresno Airport.

MEETING DATES

Next meeting: January 13th

Future meetings: February 10th
March 10th

Location: Assembly Room
Culver City Municipal Bus Lines
9815 West Jefferson Boulevard
Culver City, California

Time: 7:00 P.M. (All meetings)

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WESTERN TRANSIT

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REGIONAL TRANSIT (RT)

SACRAMENTO: December 2nd saw a major service expansion in the Sacramento area adding 22 buses to weekday base service, inauguration of six new lines, extension of many lines and reinstitution of night service (to 915 PM) on ten lines. 15 of the 23 buses from EVANSTON BUS COMPANY (See Equipment Report) were placed into service and five TDH 4507s (5502, 5503, 5504, 5506, 5508) and two TD 4506s (5509 and 5510) were returned to active status. The three remaining 4507s are for sale. Five 14 seat Dodge Vans were also placed into service in Roseville. The service changes included the following: Line 1-FOLSOM BLVD-McKINLEY BLVD.: 7th bus added to allow on time weekday operations. Sat/Sun all trips run the same both days with 40/45 minute headway.
Line 2-RIVERSIDE BLVD.-LAND PARK DRIVE: Night service reinstated to near 1968 level Sat/Sun service returned to 1971 level-two buses following night routing.
Line 3-J ST-STATE UNIVERSITY-RIVER PARK-COLLEGE GREENS-NORCADE CIRCLE: 8th bus added to cover extension of River Park Loop and extension to Norcade Circle and Folsom.
Line 4-WEST SACRAMENTO-T STREET-TAHOE PARK: No changes weekdays. Saturday service at 1971 level over regular route-hourly until 915 PM. Sundays elimination of Lines 4/8 combo with one bus assigned to operating regular route downtown to Tahoe Park.
Line 5-STOCKTON BLVD.-COLONIAL HEIGHTS-GLEN ELDER-FLORIN CENTER: Weekdays night service reinstituted operating hourly to Colonial Heights and to Florin Center via Glen Elder branch. Weekend service of 20 minutely on the trunk and hourly on the three branches, Colonial Heights, McMahon Drive and Glen Elder.
Line 6-FREEPORT BLVD.-FLORIN CENTER-24TH ST.-SACRAMENTO MANOR: 8th bus added base and hourly night service to Florin Center via both Freeport Blvd. legs. Reinstitution of 1970 Saturday schedules and upgrading of Sunday service from half hourly to 20 minutely, hourly on the branches.
Line 7-FRANKLIN BLVD.-SACRAMENTO BLVD.-44TH ST.-FLORIN CENTER: All weekday trips to/from Florin Center and new night service, 30 minute on the trunk, hourly on the branches. Reinstitution of 1970 Saturday service and Sunday schedules half hourly on the trunk, hourly on the branches and weekend night service same as weekdays.
Line 8-RIVER OAKS-MEDICAL CENTER: No changes on weekdays. On weekends all Line 8 trips terminate at Medical Center (Line 4/8 combo discontinued).
Line 9-CITY COLLEGE-NORTHGATE: No changes
Line 10-AUBURN BLVD.-ROSEVILLE: No changes
Lines 11-CHAMPION OAKS, 12-CRESTHAVEN-ROSEVILLE HEIGHTS and 13-EASTWOOD PARK-ENWOOD are three new local lines within Roseville using Dodge Vans. All three serve different sections of Roseville weekdays only and are scheduled to provide a combined 20 minutely headway between downtown and Roseville Square. All lines run between approximately 900 AM and 500 PM.
Line 14-GARDENLAND-McCLELLAN AFB-NORTH HIGHLANDS: No schedule changes weekdays or Saturdays, but 2 buses assigned weekdays exclusively to the line with one on Saturday to eliminate interlining. No changes on Sunday.
Line 15-RIO LINDA BLVD.-JERRYS CORNER: No changes weekdays or Sundays, but on Saturday second bus added to provide half hourly service.
Line 16-CONSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE-DOWNTOWN now known as 16, 26, 36, 46, 56, 66 and 76 depending upon terminals and routing. 16 runs as before between the college and downtown, 26 is service between Florin Center and Consumnes River College (middays), 36 is one PM peak trip from downtown to Elk Grove via 16 and 66, 46-FLORIN CENTER-ELK GROVE is new service via Stockton Blvd (Highway 99) into Elk Grove from downtown Sacramento (three AM inbound trips and 4 outbound in the PM rush), 56 is one AM peak outbound trip from downtown to Elk Grove via 46 and 66, 66-FLORIN CENTER-ELK GROVE SHUTTLE is new operating four midday trips on a 120 minute headway using a bus shared with Line 76 and also serving Consumnes River College.

REGIONAL TRANSIT Continued

Line 76-SOUTH AREA MOBILE HOME LOOP is a gigantic loop from Florin Center via Florin Road, Hayward Drive, Gerber Road and Stockton Blvd. in a clockwise direction on a 120 minute headway sharing a bus with Line 66.
Line 17-GREENBACK LANE TO SUNRISE BLVD.: Former Line 17 SUNRISE MALL-CARMICHAEL SHUTTLE absorbed into new Lines 23/24/25 and this 17 operates 3-4 round trips from Greenback and Sunrise Blvd. via Greenback Lane, Garfield Ave., Madison, Interstate 80 into downtown. Peak hour service only.
Line 18-RANCHO CORDOVA-FAIR OAKS-SUNRISE MALL: Night service added on weekdays and early AM trips added to connect with new Lines 80/81 for Mather AFB. Saturday service upgraded to 30 minutely using 5 buses with night service same as weekdays. Sunday service every 45 minutes using 3 buses. No changes on 28, 38, 48 and 58.
Line 19-ROBLA-RIO LINDA-ELVERTA: No changes
Line 20-MARCONI AVE.-CARMICHAEL-SUNRISE MALL and 21-MARCONI AVE.-CARMICHAEL: Line 20, formerly Line 11 but straightened out, from Auburn Blvd. and Marconi Ave. via Marconi, Palm, California, Rampart, Windway Way, San Juan, Sunset and Sunrise Blvd to Sunrise Mall operates half hourly weekdays using 5 buses, hourly nights. Line 21 is the former Line 11 Express service. Half hourly weekend service is also run.
Line 22-WINDING WAY-SUNRISE MALL: Operates weekday rush hours only using 1 bus. Sunrise Mall via Sunrise Blvd., Winding Way, Manzanita, Madison, Interstate 880 and Interstate 5 into downtown Sacramento.
Lines 23-EL CAMINO AVE-GREENBACK LANE-SUNRISE MALL-ORANGEVALE, 24-EL CAMINO AVE-GREENBACK LANE-SUNRISE MALL-MADISON AVE, 25-EL CAMINO AVE-CARMICHAEL: Lines 23 and 24 cover portions of former Line 12 and 23 covers the Orangevale loop of former 13. The two lines operate hourly to Sunrise Mall, then two hourly to Orangevale or Madison Avenue. Line 25 is the old 12 Express to Madison and Manzanita. Base service is the same daily with added weekday peak hour service.
Line 27-GREENBACK LANE-SUNRISE MALL-ORANGEVALE: Follows Line 23 route from Orangevale to Sunrise Mall, thence Greenback Lane, I-80, L-880 to downtown. Only weekday rush hour service offered.
Line 29-ARDEN WAY-CARMICHAEL is also known as 39, 49, 59 and 69 depending upon the terminals and route. 29 is former Line 13 to Carmichael only running hourly with 2 buses. 39 and 49 operate between Carmichael and downtown, 39 via Fair Oaks and 49 via Fair Oaks but bypassing Kaiser Hospital. 59 runs two AM and two PM rush hour trips between City College and McClellan AFB, 69 one AM trip downtown to McClellan AFB.
Line 80-WATT AVE-SUNRISE MALL-MADISON AVE-RANCHO CORDOVA: Started running Dec 23rd operating hourly service daily using 4 buses from Sunrise Mall thru American River College, Watt Ave., Kaiser Hospital, Kiefer Blvd., Mather AFB into Rancho Cordova.
Line 81-WATT AVE-NORTH HIGHLANDS-RANCHO CORDOVA: Operates from North Highlands past McClellan AFB, down Watt Ave., thence same as 80 to Rancho Cordova. Also operates hourly with 30 minute service over much of the combined routing. Line 82-MATHER AFB RANCHO CORDOVA operates as 80 to Watt Ave and Highway 50, thence Hwy 50 and I-80 to downtown, rush hours only.
Line 83-MADISON AVENUE: Covers portions of 23 and 80 to Fair Oaks and Madison, then Madison, Coyle, I-80 and L-880 to downtown - a peak hour only service.
Line 90-SACRAMENTO STATE UNIVERSITY-AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE-HILLSDALE: Fifth bus added to cover extension into Hillsdale subdivision on daily basis.
Line 91-TOWN & COUNTRY-FULTON AVENUE FREEWAY EXPRESS: No changes
Line 92-AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE FREEWAY EXPRESS: All trips now begin at Date and Madison Avenues, three minutes north of ARC.
Line 93-HILLSDALE: New line covering Line 90 Hillsdale loop, then I-880 to downtown.
Line 95-10TH STREET FREE SHUTTLE: Former Line 29 State Employees free service.

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (OCTD)

SANTA ANA: An additional vehicle is now in use on Line 110-LA HABRA DIAL A RIDE. Coach 701, a seven seat Dodge Sportsman Custom Van, is now supplementing the six Flxettes (401-406). There are now approximately 140 subscribers who call 1 time and arrange for a regular daily pick up time, generally for service to and from work and school. As regular customers these patrons get priority service and with the fuel shortage and unexpected mechanical problems with the larger buses the maximum wait time before pick up has been increasing and the van is scheduled to be used primarily to transport subscribing pupils to and from school during the systems peak hours freeing the larger buses for other riders. DAVE SYSTEMS, INC. has been awarded the contract to run the citywide Dial A Ride in La Habra for another year. OCTD received bids from four other firms including TOWN TOUR FUN BUS COMPANY, COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES, INC. and YELLOW CAB OF NORTH ORANGE COUNTY. The OCTD staff has been directed to contact these other firms to acquaint them with the philosophy and organization of demand activated service to promote more competitive bidding on two contracts for new Dial A Ride systems expected to begin in mid year. Directors have called for bids on 44 new 40 foot, air conditioned, diesel motor coaches for delivery in late 1974/early 1975. 22 of the buses will have 44 forward facing seats and parcel racks (similar to the 300s and 500s) while the other 22 will have 51 fibreglass seats with padded inserts in the standard transit configuration. Several lines, notably 57-THE CITY-SANTA ANA-LAGUNA BEACH, 60-SEAL BEACH-SANTA ANA VIA WESTMINSTER, 65-SOUTH COAST PLAZA-IRVINE-BALBOA and in the summer 41-NEWPORT BEACH-LA HABRA VIA HARBOR BOULEVARD are reaching passenger loads which require larger buses.

SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY (SFMRy)

SAN FRANCISCO: The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has approved trial route changes (for 90 days) for five SFMRy lines to allow more convenient connections with BART (WT 12/73). Line 23-CRESCENT will be extended along Mission from 26th to 24th, Line 51-SILVER will be extended from Silver and Mission to BART/Glen Park, Line 53-SOUTHERN HEIGHTS will runs from 16th and Bryant Streets to 16th and Mission and Lines 25-BRYANT and 80-LEAVENWORTH would be combined into one line serving BART/Powell Street crossing Market at Fifth Street.

LAGUNA BEACH MUNICIPAL TRANSIT LINES (LBMTL)

LAGUNA BEACH: During September LBMTL Line 4-MISSION VIEJO was rerouted to serve the Lake Forest area via Muirlands, Ridge Route, Rockfield and El Toro Road in lieu of traveling along Muirlands directly to El Toro. A fifteen cent fare for Laguna senior citizens was instituted on December 1st.

CITY OF LA MIRADA DIAL A RIDE (COLM)

LA MIRADA: COLM extended its service area on December 17th to include the Beach Blvd/Rosecrans Ave intersection permitting connection with OCTD Line 29-BEACH BLVD. The area in question will soon be annexed to the city.

CITY OF COMMERCE MUNICIPAL BUS LINE (COCMBL)

COMMERCE: COCMBL has filed an application with the federal government for assistance in purchasing one 30 passenger bus, two 12 passenger vans and miscellaneous equipment.

* * January 1974 WESTERN TRANSIT

PROPOSED INTRA CITY MUNICIPAL BUS SYSTEMS - PART IV

The City of Norwalk, which has received two bids for small buses for its proposed bus system (WT 9/73, 11/73) is holding off on purchasing the buses until it can get assurance from the Department of Fuel Resource Allocation that the city would receive enough fuel to keep the system in operation. The scheduled inauguration is now set for August 1974.

A two month experiment with free transit in Fallbrook was deemed successful as it handled 535 passengers on a single six mile route in a van donated by a local real estate man Raymond Waymon. Rides were free and unpaid volunteer drivers were supplied by the Fallbrook Community Services. Under a plan recently approved by San Diego County's Comprehensive Planning Organization (WT 11/73) Fallbrook will receive a medium size bus next year to connect the city with an inter community route in North San Diego County.

The City of Fillmore (Pop. 6,900) in Ventura County started a six month trial city bus last August 1st leasing a 13 seat Chevy Van from a local Chevrolet dealer. One loop type line is operated leaving the City Hall at 900AM, 1100AM, 100 PM and 300 PM (unknown if bus runs Saturday) covering all city areas and unincorporated zones west such as Fillmore West Trailer Park, Rancho Sespe Oak Village and Sespe Village. A round trip takes 53 minutes. The bus is painted white with the area below the belt rail a medium blue and labeled "CITY BUS" on the rear.

Camarillo City Bus started operations on December 7th for a six month trial using a CAL COAST CHARTER 24/36 seat International. Three lines, all with circular routes, leave from the Community Center - Line A at 1000AM, 1201PM and 200PM; Line B at 1030AM, 1230PM and 230PM; Line C at 1110AM, 110PM and 310PM traveling 100 miles a day. Service runs Tuesday through Saturday at a 25 cent fare.

Newport Beach, which has been considering a four route, five bus (24 seat) intra city system, has postponed further consideration until guidelines on fuel allocation are issued. The plan calls for buses to operate 900AM/600PM and connect with ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT lines.

Although not strictly intra city, the Fountain Valley Jaycees have begun running a "Pollution Special" commuter bus between Fountain Valley and downtown Los Angeles using a TOWN TOUR FUN BUS COMPANY bus and charging a monthly fee of $48 per rider.

SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL BUS LINES (SMMBL)

SANTA MONICA: Beginning December 2nd Saturday service between 4th/Santa Monica Blvd and Pico Blvd/Sawtelle Blvd via Olympic Boulevard was discontinued on Line 9-OLYMPIC BLVD.-PACIFIC PALISADES. Service had operated between 600AM/1000AM and 300PM/600PM. All weekend schedules now operate between downtown Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades.

SUBURBAN COMMUTER SERVICE (SCS)

SANTA FE SPRINGS: SCS, formerly CONSOLIDATED STREET RAILWAYS, added a second round trip to Line 3-SIMI VALLEY-LOS ANGELES on December 10th. The schedule leaves Simi at 625AM and downtown Los Angeles at 525PM. Coach 3004 (PD4104/097), just out of the paint shop, was used on the first day.

CITY OF EL PASO (COEP)

EL PASO: The city started its streetcar system running on November 14th. The route travels San Antonio Street, Stanton Street, 7th Street and El Paso Street. There is no regular schedule, but three cars are used in base service and four in peak hours. Initially the service ran free, but beginning November 23rd a fare of five cents was charged. Cars being used include 1505, 1509, 1513, 1516 and 1517. The EL PASO CITY LINES carbarn is entirely in city possession except possibly for the paint shop although cars are being stored on the paint shop track. The city has hired operators laid off by EPCL when the International Carline was cut off by the Mexican Government. At that time about fifty men, both bus and car operators, were laid off. El Paso Mayor Fred Hervey is talking of adding to the streetcar service. First to come would be an extension to the Civic Center, one block west of El Paso Street and they are talking of running to Pronaf Center in Juarez which is east of Lerdo, perhaps two to three miles. A bi national commission is being promoted to run the rail system between the two border cities.

RAPID TRANSIT LINES (RTL)

HOUSTON: RTL will soon file for an immediate increase of at least ten cents in bus fares (present one zone cash fare is 45¢) and curtail up to 1/3 of present routes. The firm is allowed to earn six per cent profit under its franchise, but the profit dropped to less than 3 per cent a year ago and is now operating at a loss. Wages were increased November 3rd as the second half of the present labor contract took effect. In talks between RTL and the city over a purchase price of the firm, based on appraisers values the city has stated it should pay $6.6 million which is the value of the company's assets. RTL officials have quoted figures closer to $10 million, but both sides are willing to negotiate.

AIR COACH EXPRESS AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION (ACEAT)

HOUSTON: ACEAT discontinued its service between the South Main Terminal in Houston and the William P. Hobby Airport. The last trip was 950 PM on November 2nd from Hobby Airport. The company was using a Dodge Sportsman Van (#7309) on this route.

TRI COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT (TRI MET)

PORTLAND: TRI MET plans to recall to service 16 older buses, Mack C45GT and Twin 44-S, presently in storage at the Port of Portland's Terminal 4 to meet ridership increases expected to be caused by gas shortages. TRI MET has also leased 5 buses (presumed to be 501-505, TDH 4517s) to LANE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT in Eugene and these will be returned. LCTD leased the buses to replace coaches in its fleet undergoing maintenance. The TRI MET Board has also approved immediate ordering of 80 new buses for which federal funds have already been approved (WT 7/73). During the month new express service will be inaugurated from Beaverton and Gresham to Swan Island on a trial basis. One bus would depart Beaverton Mall at 615AM and from Gresham at 605AM. Continuation of the experimental NORTHEAST-NORTHWEST line for another three months has been announced. The line runs Monday/Friday between Providence Hospital and the Hollywood district via Broadway, Weidler and the Broadway Bridge.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Below is a list of passenger equipment either acquired or disposed of by Western operators since our last report. Neither completeness nor currency is implied.

Company	Vehicle Nos	Builder	Model/Serial	Notes
NEW				
City of Honolulu	101-146	Flxible	53102-8-1/57765-57810	49 seaters
Greyhound Lines-West	(2200-2229	MCI	MC 8/-	43, RR
	(7500-7534	MCI	MC 8/-	43, RR
Holiday Lines	211	Prevost	P603-2178-73	47, RR, Champion
Orange County Transit	701	Dodge	Sportsman Custom/ B23AE4X030013	7 seat van
Regional Transit	1400-1404	Dodge	B300 Custom Sportsman/	14 seat vans
USED				
Regional Transit	(4545-4549	GMC	TDH4519/1369-1373	EBC 336-340
	(4550,51,53,	GMC	TDH4519/1829,30,32,	EBC 341,42,
	(54,55		33,62	44,45,46
	(4556-4557	GMC	T6H4521A/187-188	EBC 347-348
	(4559-4561	GMC	T6H4521A/190-192	EBC 350-352
Great Western Stg Lns	827	GMC	PD4104/827	SCTC 2497
Stardust Charters	1	GMC	PD4104/869	AVBI 724
Desert Stage Lines	103	GMC	PD4104/3169	Russell 200
American Charter Lines	(unnumb	GMC	PD4103/663	GLW 9345
	(103	GMC	PD4106/846	GLW 5252
Mark IV Charter Lines	449-450	GMC	PD4106/962,1006	GLW 7732,76
Fiestacoach	3802	GMC	PD4106/1418	GLW 7836
Guiton Charter Lines	4205	GMC	PD4106/1435	GLW 7853
Gray Line of Los Angeles	520-522	GMC	PD4106/2471,2603, 2604	OTC 441, 443, 444
Brock Bus Lines	16	Intl	1600/Wayne	ACB A2385G, 24/36 sch
San Francisco Muni Rwy	1180-1190	StLouis	PCC-All Electric	TTC 4754,57, 58,63,64,69, 70,71,75,77, 52
DISPOSITIONS				
Port Arthur Trnst Corp	(3031,3036,	GMC	TGH3101/269,250,	(Used car lot
	(3208		554	(in P.A.
	(3224,3228,	GMC	TGH3101/558,562,	(Lot in Neder-
	(3233		706	(land, Texas
Torrance Transit System	329	GMC	TDH4509/1968	Natl Bus Mus.
	333	GMC	TDH4512/1182	Pvt party