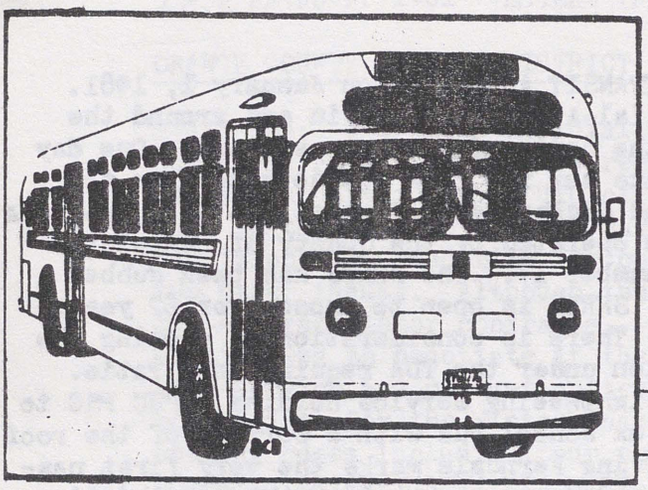


Western Transit

Monthly Publication of The Western Transit Society

VOL. 19 NO. 2 FEBRUARY 1981

KERN COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT PROGRAM

BAKERSFIELD: During 1980 the County of Kern began operation of nine rural transit services throughout the county. The systems are located in Taft, Delano, Frazier Park, Kern River Valley, Lamont, Tehachapi and Mojave-Boron. Buses began operating in Shafter and Ridgecrest on January 2nd. Typically a system provides service within a small area, supplemented by scheduled trips to Bakersfield. Most systems operate weekdays only. The money for these systems comes from a portion of the state sales tax earmarked for transportation. Until last year the money was used traditionally for road and street improvements but under pressure from elderly and handicapped groups the County allocated money for transit as well - $750,000 of this year's $3.7 million. Presently only the Delano and Taft systems meet the ten per cent farebox recovery requirements of California law, but it is expected that with schedule and routing changes as well as continued exposure to residents the systems will meet the ten per cent requirement.

SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (SAMTRANS)

SAN MATEO: Effective with the September 1st schedules additional trips were added on 5M-S. F. - HILLSDALE VIA MISSION/EL CAMINO REAL and 7F-S.F.-PALO ALTO EXPRESS VIA AIRPORT. Coastside/Pacifica service increased weekday peak hours to/from downtown San Francisco instead of BART/Daly City on 1C-LINDA MAR EXPRESS and 1OT-TERRA NOVA. New route 2OS-MISSION/TEMPLETON-SOUTHERN HILLS was started running from Mission and Templeton via Templeton and Bellevue to South Hill, thence looping cw South Hill, Oakridge, Alta Vista and South Hill to Bellevue returning Bellevue and Mission to Templeton. One am and one pm trip (8AM and 3PM from Mission) extend to Natalie Lipman School in Brisbane after making the Southern Hills loop via South Hill, Prague, Geneva, Bayshore, Old County Rd, San Francisco Ave and Solano Rd. Operates weekdays only 630AM-600PM using 1 bus on a 30 min peak/60 min base headway. 22-DALY CITY-SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO had weekday service (600AM-630PM) extended into downtown San Francisco from Mission and Hillside via Mission to 1st instead of via John Daly Blvd from Mission to BART/Daly City except for two am southbound peak trips from BART at 710AM and 807AM. The short block ccw detour off Hillside via Brunswick, Wellington and Mission enabling a transfer to MUNI's 14-MISSION to downtwn was dropped in favor of operating on Hillside and Mission. The line continues to operate to/from BART/Daly City evening and weekends/holidays. Bus requirements for the extension increased from 4 to 8 peak (20 minutely) and 3 to 6 midday (30 minutely). Millbrae route 33B-MILLBRAE HIGHLANDS had its CBD routing changed while inter community route 6A-CANADA COLLEGE-EAST PALO ALTO had two am and two pm trips routed off Willow in east Menlo Park to loop Van Buren, Windermere, Bay and Willow. Redwood City routes 51B-MARSH MANOR VIA BROADWAY (eastbound) and 51E MARSH MANOR VIA FAIR OAKS (westbound) were rerouted between Jefferson and Veterans Blvd to run on Bradford and Main instead of Marshall and Walnut. Menlo Park local 50B-SHARON HEIHTS-MARSH MANOR had its Sharon Heights clockwise loop enlarged from former Avy and Alameda de las Pulgas via Alameda, Sharon Rd, Sharon Park Dr to Lassen and return Sharon Park Dr, Monte Rosa and Avy to loop.

SOUTHERN HUMBOLDT RURAL TRANSIT SYSTEM (SHRTS)

GARBERVILLE: The SHRTS was taken over by the HUMBOLDT TRANSIT AUTHORITY on January 1, 1981. SHRTS consisted of one Wayne Busette which operated in Dial-A Ride service in and around the Garberville area, from Benbow on the south to Weott on the north, four days per week. One day per week (Thursday) it operates on a scheduled fixed route ser ice from the service area to Eureka and Arcata with intermediate stops for pick up and discharge in Scotia, Rio Dell, Fortuna and Ferndale. This service started in 1979 and has been operated by the County of Humboldt's Public Works Department. The one vehicle became HTA's number 17. The SHRTS has been dubbed "The Quail" since it started and will retain that name. SHRTS is open to those over 62 years of age or handicapped. The Busette has a Collins lift. There is consideration of opening the service up to the general public to make the qualification under the TDA requirements ratio. Also operating out of Garberville is the "Squirrel", a sightseeing service holding a PUC PSC to operate from Garberville area to Ferndale and back. An ex school bus with a portion of the roof removed is the equipment of the Squirrel. The Quail serving Ferndale marks the very first passenger service into Ferndale from Eureka, albeit only one day per week, since the mid-thirties when Pacific Greyhound Lines disposed of their rights into Ferndale.

GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT DISTRICT (GET)

BAKERSFIELD: GET Directors have agreed to apply for two UMTA grants. One, for $1,680,600 is being sought for construction of a downtown terminal and to equip eight buses with lifts for the handicapped. The terminal is to be located in the block bounded by 19th, 20th, K and L Streets and construction is to begin in mid 1981. The district will provide matching funds of $422,400. An operating grant for $900,000 would be used for salaries and other costs for FY 81 and matched with $1,172,377 of local funds. Also approved for purchase were 12 fareboxes from Keene and a $27,332 bid by Nimco Co. to refurbish 12 buses (the Twin Coaches from County Transit), subject to an inspection of the bidding company's San Jose facilities.

CITY OF PORTERVILLE

PORTERVILLE: The city has awarded a contract to GILBERT'S FLIGHT SERVICE of Delano to operate a Dial-A-Ride service tentatively to begin next month. The company submitted a low bid of $14 per hour for the first 7800 hours. The program will be funded with $135,000 in state gasoline tax money with the city purchasing three vehicles which will be leased to GFS who will maintain the vehicles with the city furnishing the fuel. DAR cost will be 75 cents per ride.

CALAVERAS TRANSIT COMPANY (CTC)

JACKSON: CTC began service between Sonora and Jackson linking the towns of Angels Camp and San Andreas on December 17th. Using two 14 passenger vans and funds from the California Department of Transportation the route will serve an area that has had no public transit since stagecoach days and will link up with AMADOR STAGE LINES at Jackson for continued passage to Sacramento. The towns of Angels Camp and Sonora were in their heyday during the Gold Rush days and was the staging ground for the infamous Black Bart who regularly robbed stagecoaches.

GREYHOUND LINES-WEST (GLW)

SAN FRANCISCO: GLW buses on the LOS ANGELES-SAN FRANCISCO route have begun serving the town of Keyes located between Turlock and Modesto. Northbound buses depart from Bob's Exxon Station at 850AM, 200PM and 715PM. Southbound buses pass Keyes at 935AM, 1240PM and 520PM (discharge only).

IF YOU MOVE DO NOT FORGET TO SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS AS THIRD CLASS MAIL IS NOT FORWARDED

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (OCTD)

SANTA ANA: The first official work stoppage in OCTD's history began February 5 as 745 operators and 212 mechanics represented by Local 19 of the United Transportation Union walked out after giving UTU officials strike sanction the previous weekend. Main issues in the dispute include wages, cost of living provisions and health and welfare provisions. Spread time for operators and subdontracting of work for mechanics are two other issues. Although the employees are represented by the same union there are two separate labor contracts. Both district and union officials have indicated a willingness to negotiate if the other side will but the State Mediation and Concilation Service has not yet gotten the parties together. February 8th was scheduled to be the date for the Winter Shake Up and was to include thirty additional scheduled weekday buses including four new lines 62-WESTMINSTER-SANTA ANA VIA WEST 5TH-HAZARD, 68-WESTMINSTER-TUSTIN VIA WEST 1ST/BOLSA, 205-LAGUNA HILLS-DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH and 206-SAN CLEMENTE-NEWPORT CENTER.

OMNITRANS (OT)

SAN BERNARDINO: OT Directors have approved a staffing reorganization and reduction of political reviews in an attempt to achieve closer management of OT operations. The advisory East Valley and West Valley Transit Service Authority boards and their staff committees of city and county administrators will now only meet in January and February when annual service determinations are made or when required by special conditions. A management restructuring will result in the hiring of an Assistant General Manager, a full time planner (currently provided by SANBAG on a part time basis) and six supervisory personnel will be freed from dispatching duties to respond to problems in the field. Fare increases and service decreases are both possibilities if OT is to meet state requirements that at least 20% of the cost of operation be generated through the farebox. Elimination of Sunday service in Yucaipa, the West Valley and abandonment of low productivity lines is also to be considered. The OT Board has approved a contract with University Control Corp. of Loma Linda to install wheelchair lifts on ten of the AM General buses and they have also advised that if the City of San Bernardino does not let OT take over operation of Line 18-HIGHLAND AVENUE CROSSTOWN by April they will cut off funding of the service. Service is presently operated by YELLOW CAB COMPANY.

SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT (SCMTD)

SANTA CRUZ: On October 18 SCMTD was hit by its first strike as the 170 operators walked out after failure to reach agreement with the District on terms of a new pact. Major issues in the strike were SCMTD's determination to hire up to 40% part time operators and the union's demands that all contract issues be submitted to binding arbitration. Changes in the Winter Schedule effective December 11 included elimination of the jog on Kings Village and Bean Creek on Line 30-SCOTTS VALLEY in favor of a more direct routing along Mt. Hermon to Scotts Valley Dr. 40-DAVENPORT had the 645 AM and 330PM trips from Santa Cruz routed to serve Lonestar/Cement Plant Rd in Davenport weekdays only. 41-BONNY DOON added an 800AM trip from Santa Cruz weekdays only providing hourly headways to 900AM - regular headway is two hourly. 69-41ST EXPRESS had early morning service (615am-645am) changed to make all stops on Soquel Ave and Capitola Rd and is thus designated 69-41 ST AVE on headsigns, same as existing evening service. 71-WATSONVILLE VIA SOQUEL DR continues to operate with bike rack equipped buses (WT 1/81). The second batch of six former SCCTD Twin Coaches arrived in late September. CT #497 and 519 were painted in SCMTD black window scheme and placed into service as 8007 and 8009, a new number series since the 800s are now used up with delivery of non revenue Chevy crew vans 805-809. #467, 489, 510 and 528 were still in storage in January.

SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL BUS LINES (SMMBL)

SANTA MONICA: Saturday service was inaugurated for the first time on February 14th on line 10-SANTA MONICA-LOS ANGELES BLUE DIAMOND EXPRESS. Service operates hourly leaving 4th and Santa Monica Blvd from 710AM until 510PM and departing 3rd and San Pedro from 815AM until 615PM. Line 10 was originally begun in 1976 and has operated weekdays only since that time.

FRESNO TRANSIT (FT)

FRESNO: Five FT lines were altered on February 2nd in a cost cutting effort for both FT and the City of Clovis. 51-BARSTOW AVENUE was eliminated and 32-FRESNO STREET has been extended east from Barstow and Cedar via Barstow, Chestnut, Sierra, Maple, Herndon, Chestnut, Barstow and existing route. This service will operate weekdays from 650AM to 900AM and from 245PM to 630PM. 45-ASHLAN was reduced to a one way loop on Ashlan, Clovis, Claremont, Bellaire, Stanford, Pontiac, Fowler, Shields, Clovis to Ashlan. 49-SHAW AVENUE CROSSTOWN will no longer go to Clovis but will operate east only as far as Fresno State University at Campus Drive. 9-SHAW AVENUE-CLOVIS will go to Clovis on every other trip in off peak hours but all peak hour trips will operate to Clovis.

TRAILWAYS, INC. (TWI)

LOS ANGELES: AMERICAN BUSLINES' LOS ANGELES-EL CENTRO-CALEXICO route service has now been extended over the International Boundary and into Mexicali, Mexico. Also a new route from San Diego via El Cajon, El Centro and Calexico operating one daily round trip has been inaugurated. Six Los Angeles-San Diego Non Stop trips all extending to Tijuana were inaugurated November 15. Some of them are part of former Los Angeles-San Francisco and Los Angeles-Seattle trips. Started December 1st was new service from San Francisco, Sacramento and way points to South Lake Tahoe serving Harrahs Tahoe and Sahara Tahoe. Two daily round trips from San Francisco and one more round trip from Sacramento are operated.

GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT (GGT)

SAN RAFAEL: March 1st will see higher bridge tolls, bus fares and ferry charges. Motorists will pay $1.25 per car instead of the present $1 although car pools of three or more will cross free during peak hours. The Larkspur Ferry will be increased from $1.50 to $1.75 while 86 midday and weekend trips will be dropped leaving only two trips each morning and evening commute hour. The cutback would reduce the Ferry division from 100 to 60 employees. Bus fares will also be increased, both local county fares and transbay fares. In Sonoma County local fares will go from 35 to 50¢, in Marin local fares will rise from 50 to 60¢ and in San Francisco from 50 to 75¢. Commute fares will be: Zone 2 (Southern Marin) $1.25 to $1.45, Zone 3 (Central Marin) $1.50 to $1.75, Zone 4 (Novato) $1.75 to $2.05, Zone 5 (north to Rohnert Park) $2.25 to $2.60 and Zone 6 (Santa Rosa) $2.50 to $2.90. The experimental $10 per week Ferry Fast Pass will be eliminated and increases in the "club bus" fares the district subsidizes to areas its own system does not serve are also to be considered for changes by June.

GRAY LINE TOURS COMPANY (GLOLA)

LOS ANGELES: GLOLA has started daily non stop service between Los Angeles and Las Vegas with pickups from more than 100 hotels and motels. For $53 round trip passengers on the "Non Stop Fun Spree" get lectured sightseeing enroute, snacks and beverages, games and the services of a tour escort. Buses leave daily at 9AM from Los Angeles. Mini vacation packages of one and two nights are also available.

METROPOLITAN AREA COMMUTER SERVICE (MACS)

FAIRBANKS: During December borough drivers and mechanics were to vote on a new contract between the borough and the Laborers Union. No details are available but it is known that wage increases were included. Borough workers joined the Laborers Union last summer. A "job action" has been threatened if something is not done immediately about heating problems on the buses. A December cold spell with accompanying -30 degree temperatures and ice and fog the defrosters were unable to clear the windshields and the temperature in the drivers area was rarely above 20 degrees. Drivers previously distributed leaflets to patrons asking them to contact the administration to do something. Of the 13 buses in the fleet the seven re-engined New Looks are the ones not having adequate heaters and the new engines run cooler which worsens the problem. The new Gilligs coming this year will have heaters installed for polar winters.

REGIONALTRANSPORTATION DISTRICT (RTD)

DENVER: A number of routing and schedule adjustments took place December 7th including a speed up of all express buses from downtown Denver to reflect the speedier passenger boarding made possible by the pay-as-you-leave fare collection. Service on the Mile Hi Shuttle will be continued for another three months although ridership is declining and providing security for patrons cars is expensive. Two new paratransit routes were inaugurated between Niwot and Longmont IBM and between Wondervu and the Coal Creek Canyon area and downtown Arvada. Regional N-BOULDER-NEDERLAND now provides Saturday service and the seasonal service to the Eldora Ski Area was instituted. Regional Y-LYONS-BOULDER had all trips between Lyons and Longmont cancelled and the Westminster Mall branch of 80-80TH was discontinued due to lack of ridership.

SUN CITY AREA TRANSIT (SCAT)

EL PASO: HandySCAT operations were set to join the city on February 15. Fares will be 50¢ except that low income patrons will pay 25¢ and certain public agencies will pay the cost for their clients. Upper Valley bus service has been approved for a six month extension by El Paso County Commissioners. Work continues on the conversion of the Union Depot into an administrative, operations and maintenance complex for SCAT. The total SCAT active roster is now 84 RTS IIs (1-84) and 15 T8H5307As (85-95, 152, 98, 99 and 0103). Translated to 4200s these are 4215, 4216, 4218-4227, 4229, 4230 and 4234.

# # # # # # # # # # # # # # #

WT STAFF

Editor	Edmund Buckley
Senior Staff	Robert Higginbotham Jack Perry Warren F. Quon John McKane
Reporters	Bob Burrowes Henry Leinbach

WTS OFFICERS

General Manager	Bill Vallow
Treasurer	Todd Terpening
Program Chairman	J. K. Drummond
Business Address	1009 Kendall Drive San Gabriel CA 91775

Editorial Address: 2225 North Broadway, #G, Santa Ana, CA, 92706

EQUIPMENT REPORT

PROPERTY	FLEET NOS	BUILDER	MODEL/SERIAL	NOTES
NEW				
Arrow Charter Lines	(1224-1229	Eagle	10/-	1225 is 30229,48,RR
	(1230-1231	Eagle	10/30338-39	46,RR
Falcon Chtr Service	91-92	MCI	MC9/S15476U35554, S15477U35555	
West Way	(4704	MCI	MC8/S13169 U32651	
	(4708-4709	MCI	MC9/S15419 U35482, S15420 U35483	
Lane County Trnst Dist	701-718	GMD	T6H4523N/350001-350018	
Citibus (Lubbock)	1001-1018	GMC	T7W203/A027-A044	
Corpus Christi Transit	1316-1320	GMC	T7W603/A491-A495	
Las Vegas Transit System	4521-4525	GMC	T8020H/810395-810399	Addtl info
Cheriotts (Salem, Ore)	unkn	GMC	T7060H/810527-810535	
Montebello Bus Lines	(9320-9329	GMC	T7060H/810592-810601	
	(9330-9338	GMC	T8020H/810603-810611	
OMNITRANS	400-440	GMC	T8020H/810614-810654	43,WC
Gardena Bus Lines	772-778	GMC	T8020H/810689 810695	42,WC
SLATCO	226	GMC	H8H649/060	
All West Tours	565	GMC	H8H649/085	
Eastshore Lines	340	GMC	H8H649/A233	
USED				
Peninsula Charter Lines	(303-305,310	GMC	TDH4509/045,043,050, 038	AC 1918,16,23, 1911
	(306	GMC	TDH3612/752	Trnst Casualty
	(307	GMC	TDH3714/267	
	(308	GMC	TDH3612/060	NoGate 110 via SAMTRANS
	(309	GMC	TDH3612/1038	CT 6641
	(312-313	GMC	TDH4519/1954,1934	Ex Wichita, front door lifts
Peerless Stages	131-132	GMC	SDM4501/079-080	Msn Trails 606-7
City of Thousand Oaks	4500	GMC	TDH4517/728	EPCL 3980
West Way	(4706-4707	GMC	S8M5304A/069,043	Achors Gray Line 48, Inter Isl. Resorts -
Bremerton Charlestoh Trnst	145	Twin	41S/1049	Grays Harbor
MUNI	(6,20,49II,59	Hammond, Holman & Cal Cable RR Co	Double End Cable Car	Knotts Berry Farm 6, 20, 49II, 59
DISPOSITIONS				
AC Transit	(1921	GMC	TDH4509/048	Calif Rwy Museum
	(2103	GMC	TDH4801/530	"
Mission Trails	605	GMC	SDM5301/301	to Sierra Pac
MUNI	(8900	MB	717/254	to pvt party
	(8901	MB	MB137-2D/645	"
Utah Transit Authority	2011,2013	GMC	TDH4512/2801,3189	to Natl Coach
	2014,16,17,	GMC	TDM4515/026,029,031	"
	2019,21-23	GMC	TDM4515/033,038,330-1	"
	3789-91,93	GMC	TDH4512/2658-60,62	"
	3794-3795	GMC	TDH4512/2813-2814	"