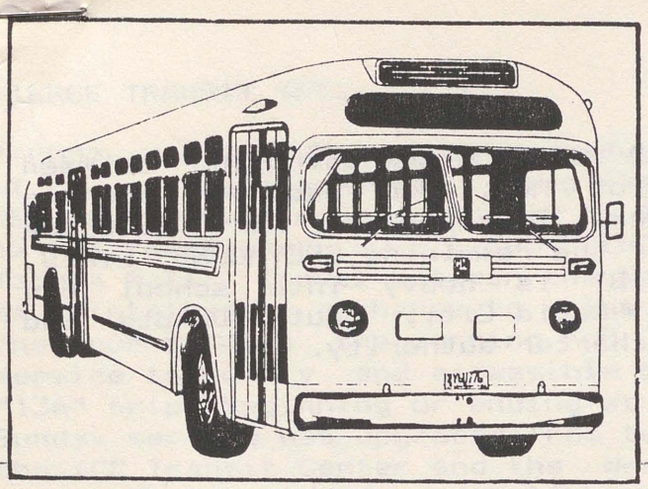


Western Transit

Monthly Publication of The Western Transit Society

OUR 25TH YEAR

VOL. 26 NO. 8 AUGUST 1988

OMNITRANS (OT)

SAN BERNARDINO: July 11th brought an expansion of OT service including one new line and changes to seven others. These changes required five additional scheduled buses. NEW is Line 61-CHAFFEY COLLEGE-ONTARIO AIRPORT-ONTARIO CIVIC CENTER.Service operates hourly between 600AM and 800PM weekdays and 700AM to 700PM on Saturdays using two 1000 series Flxible New Look buses. Beginning at Chaffey College the 61 travels via Haven, G Street, Archibald, 4th Street, Vineyard Avenue, into and thru Ontario International Airport, Vineyard, Holt Blvd to downtown Ontario looping Holt, Euclid, D Street and Sultana. Line 62-EUCLID AVENUE-MOUNTAIN AVENUE was doubled in size. Formerly a north/south line primarily along Euclid the line now operates as a two directional loop in Upland, Ontario, Chino and Montclair. Beginning at 23rd and Euclid in Upland the line operates via Euclid, D Street, Sultana, Holt, Euclid, Walnut, Mountain, Riverside, Central, Philadelphia, Mountain, 7th Street, Monte Vista, into Montclair Transcenter, 8th Street, Mountain and 23rd to Euclid. Two buses operate in this direction and two operate in the reverse direction. On Line 1-40TH STREET-COLTON a small jog was added in the vicinity of St. Bernardine Medical Center while 9-BLOOMINGTON- SAN BERNARDINO was extended to Tri City Hospital. 18-HIGHLAND AVENUE was extended further along Highland Avenue while 60-CHAFFEY COLLEGE-MONTCLAIR-INDIAN HILL VILLAGE now has thirty minute headways all day long on weekdays. 64-UPLAND- CHINO and 65-ONTARIO- CHINO HILLS- LOS SERRANOS were both rerouted to serve the new Chino Towne Square shopping center.

LAKE ELSINORE TRANSIT SYSTEM (LETS)

LAKE ELSINORE: LETS is a two bus, one route system operating in this Riverside County city and is one of the few non RTA operations within the county. The route is actually operated using two buses with one operating the EASTBOUND route or clockwise around Lake Elsinore and the other operating the WESTBOUND route or counter clockwise. Both routes operate on 90 minute headways six days per week. EASTBOUND operates between 615AM and 545PM while WESTBOUND operates between 745AM and 725PM. LETS recently took delivery of two new TMC RTS 40 foot lift equipped buses (See Equipment Report). The buses are painted all white with black window effect and a wide dark blue belt rail with the letters "LETS" on the front, rear and sides. The buses feature 43 blue American brand seats, fabric in the front and fibreglass in the back, all openable windows, wheelchair lift and electronic headsigns. LETS bus operators still make change for riders. LETS fares are 50 cents for adults, 25 cents for disabled and seniors. Students can purchase a $3.50 ten ride ticket book.

BRIDGEWATER TRANSPORT (BT)

TUCSON, ARIZONA: BT has purchased BUTTERFIELD STAGE LINES operating between Tucson and Douglas, Arizona during the month of May. BSL had been running three schedules a day Tucson/Douglas via Bisbee, Sierra Vista, Fort Huachuca and Tucson Airport and had recently taken over the remaining GREYHOUND LINES, INC. schedules between these two cities. BT is heavy into school bus operations and has three bases in Tucson, Rapid City, South Dakota and Plattsburgh, New York and also has interstate charter authority.

GREYHOUND LINES, INC. (GL)

DALLAS, TEXAS: GL has filed an application with the Interstate Commerce Commission to purchase S B & E Transportation Company d/b/a PACIFIC TRAILWAYS. Operating authority to be transferred includes Certificate No. MC-70947 (Sub No. 27) which authorizes the transportation of passengers and package express over a series of routes in the states of Oregon, Idaho and Utah (a principal route is between Portland, Boise and Salt Lake City) and nationwide charter and special operations. Intrastate authority in all three states would also be transferred to GL. Temporary authority was granted to the transferee (GL) in June.

SIERRA NEVADA STAGE LINES, INC. (SNSL)

RENO, NEVADA: SNSL recently started service between Ely and Las Vegas (284 one way route miles) with twice a week service (Tuesday and Thursday). Service departs Ely at 700AM with arrival in Las Vegas at 1145AM. The return trip departs Las Vegas at 130PM arriving Ely at 600PM. Intermediate points served include Alamo, Caliente, Panaca and Pioche. SNSL is the fourth carrier to operate this route since 1946. Like much of the State of Nevada the area is lightly populated.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT (RTD)

DENVER, COLORADO: Substantial changes were made in RTD service beginning June 12th. 7- NORTH WASHINGTON had peak hour service extended north from 120th Avenue via Huron and 134th Avenue to 134th/Osage. Service operates betweem 618 and 819AM and 222 and 620PM. 17-JEFFCO now has new midday and evening service to Heritage Square. Midday service is also operated between Cold Spring Park N Ride and Golden. NEW is 29- CENTENNIAL which serves Arapahoe College, Riverfront Festival Market, Federal Boulevard, Loretto Heights and the new Federal/Evans transit hub. This route replaces Line 30 south of Evans on Federal. Also NEW is 29 LTD- CENTENNIAL. This weekday peak hour line makes only limited stops and operates same as 30 and 36 north of Evans and as 29 local south of Evans. NEW is 36-FORT LOGAN betweem Littleton Transit Center, Fort Logan and Federal/Evans transit hub. 36-LTD-FORT LOGAN operates same as 36 to Federal/Evans and then into downtown Denver weekdays peak hours only. The portion of 51-SHERIDAN CROSSTOWN south of Bear Valley was discontinued. 76- WADSWORTH CROSSTOWN was extended into downtown Broomfield from the Broomfield Park N Ride and ends at U.S. Hwy 287 and 5th Street. 92-92ND AVENUE CROSSTOWN was extended to Wadsworth via 92nd Avenue and to the Hallack Junction Park N Ride. CCE-CENTRAL CIRCULATOR EAST, 29X-BEAR VALLEY EXPRESS, 70X- WHEAT RIDGE/LOWRY AFB EXPRESS and 104X- WAGON ROAD/LOWRY AFB EXPRESS were all discontinued due to low patronage. 55X and 68X were consolidated and 68X operates only to 80th and Pierce while the Lake Arbor loop was discontinued. Midday service between 1100AM and 100PM on COAL CREEK PARATRANSIT was discontinued as was NIWOT PARATRANSIT.

ERCE TRANSIT (PT)

TACOMA, WASHINGTON: Summer schedules were effective on June 20th and a number of changes were made including the following: Sunday frequency on 11- POINT DEFIANCE was increased from 60 to 30 minutely between 1115AM and 515PM. Former 12 was renumbered 50-STEVENS-ORCHARD to indicate that it now travels to the Tacoma Mall. Travel between the North 26th and Proctor District and TCC will be maintained by a change to Line 16. Service operates every half hour for a one hour span in the morning and a four hour span in the afternoon. Midday service is hourly and accessible buses are assigned. On 13-30TH STREET all "13A" trips beginning or ending at North 30th and Proctor were discontinued and Sunday service was upgraded from two hourly to hourly. 16-UPS was extended to the TCC Transit Center and the Westgate area is no longer served. Service is hourly during midday and half hourly during peaks. 41-PORTLAND AVENUE rush hour frequency is now 30 minutely. 51-UNION AVENUE was extended to North 45th & Cheyenne while 55-PARKLAND-MALL now has thirty minute weekday headways.

SEATTLE METRO TRANSIT (SMT)

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON: Beginning on May 28th Waterfront Streetcar fares were changed to reflect regular METRO service: 65 cents in peak hpurs, 55 cents in off peak and 25 cents senior and disabled. Summer schedules became effective June 11th and brought many changes in Northeast Seattle. NEW is 2 EXPRESS providing peak period express between Queen Anne Hill and downtown Seattle. This service will operate on an experimental basis for one year when a determination is made on its continuation. Morning service is inbound only and will operate south on 2nd Ave from Denny Way to Yesler Way. Afternoon trips return to Queen Anne from Yesler Way via 3rd Ave, Lenora St and 1st Avenue. Current Route 73 local weekday service between the University district and downtown Seattle via Eastlake Avenue East was renumbered 70. 71 and 72 will provide peak and midday weekday service between downtown Seattle and the University district on a non stop basis via either Eastlake Avenue East or the I-5 express lanes. On Route 73 in addition to weekday peak express service to and from Jackson Park and Maple Leaf, the 73 now provides local service between the U district and downtown Seattle via Fairview Avenue North and Eastlake Avenue East. NEW is 76, a weekday peak hour express operating between Wedgwood and downtown Seattle on Roosevelt Way N.E. and I-5. This will replace former 71 express service along Roosevelt Way N. E. and 11th Avenue N.E. Also NEW is 79, a weekday peak hour line between Lake City and downtown Seattle on Roosevelt Way N.E. and I-5 which replaces former express service on the 72.

SIERRA TRAILWAYS (Boise School Bus & Charter Service d/b/a)

BOISE, IDAHO: All ST service between San Francisco, Sacramento and Reno has been suspended leaving the only TRAILWAYS service in the State of Nevada across the southern tier thru Las Vegas. However, ALLEN TRANSPORTATION COMPANY of Sacramento (AMADOR STAGE LINES) has filed application with the Interstate Commerce Commission to purchase the authority held by BOISE in Certificate No. MC-157603 (Sub No. 2) authorizing the transportation of passengers and their baggage over regular routes between San Francisco and Reno over Interstate Highway 80 serving all intermediate points.

LAGUNA BEACH MUNICIPAL TRANSIT LINES (LBMTL):

LAGUNA BEACH: Beginning August 1st Line 581-SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY was extended one mile further south from Monarch Bay Plaza (PCH & Crown Valley) along PCH looping to serve Salt Creek Beach, Ritz Carlton Hotel and the Dana Niguel Library.

LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (LADOT)

LOS ANGELES: DASH-VENICE began operating during June and will continue through September on Saturday/Sunday/Holidays between 9AM and 9PM between the City of Los Angeles Parking Lot at Washington and Venice Blvds and Venice Beach. COMMUTER EXPRESS Line 423-WESTLAKE-ENCINO-LOS ANGELES was combined with ENCINO PARK & RIDE (the original LADOT commute service) on July 1st and extended from Washington and Figueroa downtown via Figueroa and Jefferson to Hoover. All Westlake Village trips now serve the Encino Park And Ride lot at Hayvenhurst and Magnolia. LADOT fares were adjusted on July 1st. Local lines 147- SAN PEDRO and 203-GRIFFITH PARK OBSERVATORY were increased from 85 cents to $1. 10. On express lines one distance step was deducted from the fare so that a former one zone express now charges the base rate, a two zone charges one zone, etc. As a result certain rates were reduced and the largest increase was ten cents.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT (RTD)

LOS ANGELES: The RTD Board has unanimously selected Alan Pegg, who has been the Interim General Manager since the first of the year, for the permanent post. Pegg had served for about eighteen months as RTD's Controller and Treasurer.

The Hollywood Bowl operation started July 3rd and RTD is operating eight of the Bowl services this year. 651-SHERMAN OAKS and 653-CANOGA PARK are based at Division 8, 652-WESTWOOD is totally at Division 7 a portion of the line moved from Division 6, 655-PASADENA is based at Division 3 and 657-TORRANCE is from Division 18. 660-LAKEWOOD is at Division 12, 662-WEST HOLLYWOOD at Division 7 and 664-FULLERTON is housed at Division 9. At least one Bus Run on each line is accessible. FOOTHILL TRANSIT is operating Line 656-EL MONTE this year.

COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM (CTS)

SAN DIEGO: The County of San Diego, Department of Public Works, has awarded a $3.8 million contract to COMMUNITY TRANSIT SERVICES, INC. for operation of the East County Suburban Bus Service (fixed route service in La Mesa, Santee, El Cajon and Lakeside (CTS 846, 847, 848, 849, 854)) for a three year period beginning July 1, 1988. Other bidders included PAUL's LINE (previous provider), GREYHOUND LINES, INC., AMERICAN TRANSIT CORP., LAIDLAW TRANSIT, INC. , and TRANSIT CONTRACTORS/ATE. During the first year of the contract the present service levels will be operated. For the remainder of the contract the County will provide 17 additional buses for service expansion in the area caused, in part, by the completion of the EAST LINE of the SAN DIEGO TROLLLEY to El Cajon.

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (OCTD)

SANTA ANA: The OCTD Board of Directors recently awarded The Gillig Corporation a $12 million contract for the purchase of sixty nine 40 x 96 lift equipped motor coaches with delivery in the spring of 1989. Neoplan Corporation and New Flyer Industries were expected to enter bids but did not for various business related reasons. Current plans include equipping about six of the buses to operate on propane to test alternative fuels in anticipation of governmental regulations to start in 1991 that will require fuels other than diesel.

EARS AGO IN "WESTERN TRANSIT"

August 1963 *SMMBL moves to new garage at Sixth & Colorado
*LAMTA moves from PE Building to temporary location at 513 S Main
*Greyhound Lines introduces the MC-5 coach

August 1968 *Two way radio system introduced on RTD buses
*PIONEER BUS LINES began operation of local service in Reno
*SAN CLEMENTE STAGE LINES authorized to began operations between Camp Pendleton and Disneyland

August 1973 *San Bernardino Freeway Busway dedicated and five new lines started
*COUNTY TRANSIT inaugurates local service in five more cities - Gilroy, Sunnyvale, Mtn View, Los Altos and Milpitas

August 1978 *NCTD expands to operate service, under contract, in El Cajon area
*BARTD begins long awaited Sunday rail service
*RTA begins Line 23-SUNNYMEAD-MORENO and 24-WOODCREST-TYLER MALL

August 1983 *SAN DIEGO TROLLEY extends rail service to all hours, supplemental bus service no longer provided
*PEERLESS STAGES discontinued trans bay service between Palo Alto and Fremont
*The "Martinez Link" established between BART/Del Norte and Martinez

AIRPORT COACH (Ground Systems, Inc d/b/a)

ANAHEIM: All service was suspended beginning July 8th through and including July 27th as a result of the various actions surrounding PINETREE SERVICE CORPORATION's application to transfer to APTC its airport operating authority (WT 6/88). FUN BUS SYSTEMS INC. had filed application to have APTC cease and desist from providing service with Commission authorization to operate. After filing the initial application APTC filed an amendment to relocate the Anaheim terminal from the Hyatt Regency Alicante Hotel to the Anaheim Hyatt Hotel and to delete several tariff points including San Juan Capistrano, Oceanside, Carlsbad, La Jolla and San Diego International Airport. The FBS request was eventually dismissed and interim authority was granted to Ground Systems. With the resumption of service all routes are again operating.

BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT (BARTD)

OAKLAND: A threatened strike by BARTD train operators, station agents, clerical personnel and maintenance employees has been delayed for at least two months after Governor Deukmejian, through State Attorney General John Van De Kamp, went to court and obtained a temporary restraining order to block the walkout. The unions had rejected a "final offer" from BART of a 9.3 per cent wage increase over a three year period saying that the value of the increase would be diluted by major work rule and fringe benefit changes that BART wanted.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC)

SAN FRANCISCO: Listed below are applications before or decisions of the Commission:

Application of SANTA BARBARA AIRBUS to establish a zone of rate freedom of -$2 to +$4 for passenger stage service between points in Santa Barbara, et al, and Los Angeles International Airport.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

PROPERTY	FLEET NOS	BUILDER	MODEL/SERIAL	NOTES
-NEW-				
Preferred Charter	8711	MCI	102A3/HP041099	
Maverick Coach Lines (ON)	771-773	MCI	102A3/HP041767-769	
Perimeter (BC)	685	MCI	102C3/JR042015	
Starline Sightseeing Tours	80	MCI	102C3/JP042161	
Signatours	603	MCI	102C3/---	
Arrow Stage Lines (AZ)	1025-1027	TMC	102A3/HR005895-897	
Greyhound Lines Inc.	2162	TMC	102A3/HR006310	
Ray & Ross (NV)	182-184	TMC	102A3/JR006386-388	
Lake Elsinore Transit System	609-610	TMC	T80607/JR825370-371	
SCRTD	2003	TMC	T80207/JR825375	1
Western (BC)	1788	Prevost	2P9L/H1001305	
-USED-				
America West Stages	820	Flxible	45102-8-1/57617	2
	822	Flxible	45102-8-1/57607	2
Dreamliner Bus Leasing	730	GMC	T8H-5305/031	3
	732	GMC	T8H-5305/033	3
	740	GMC	T8H-5305/041	3
Sierra Nevada Stage Line (NV)	602	GMC	T8H-5305A/082	4
	620	GMC	T8H-5305A/100	4
	621-622	GMC	T7H603/174,185	5
Pacific Coast Sightseeing	3123	GMC	T7W603/A022	5
Gray Line of Los Angeles	478	MCI	MC-8/U30191/S10264	6
	479	MCI	MC-8/U30740/S10550	6
Del Norte Coaches Inc. (TX)	D-2	MCI	MC-8/U30773/S10912	7
Two Pals Travels (LA)	6901	MCI	MC-8/U30984/S11214	8
American Stage Tours	1054	MCI	MC-8/U32651/S13169	9
TCI	602	MCI	MC-9/DP036428	10
Western Coach Service (NV)	---	TMC	MC-8/2034	11
Hebaragi	---	TMC	MC-8/2053	12
Blue Line	7869	TMC	MC-8/2038	13
Great Dane Bus Lines	---	TMC	MC-9/CR003513	14

NOTES

1. First of an order of 267 diesel and 30 methanol units.
2. Ex OCTD 1514 & 1504.
3. Ex Seattle Metro (WA), same nos.
4. Ex Golden Gate Transit, same numbers, 602 lost in fire.
5. Ex Hertz.
6. Ex Greyhound 3294 & 4242.
7. Ex ---- 615.
8. Ex Greyhound 4402.
9. Ex West Way Lines 4704.
10. Owner-Great Dane Bus Lines, Operator-Tour Contractors, ex Mountain View Coach Lines.
11. Ex Greyhound 7865.
12. Ex Greyhound 7884.
13. Owned & Operated by Hebaragi, ex Greyhound 7869.
14. Ex Robert G. Conner 20.

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