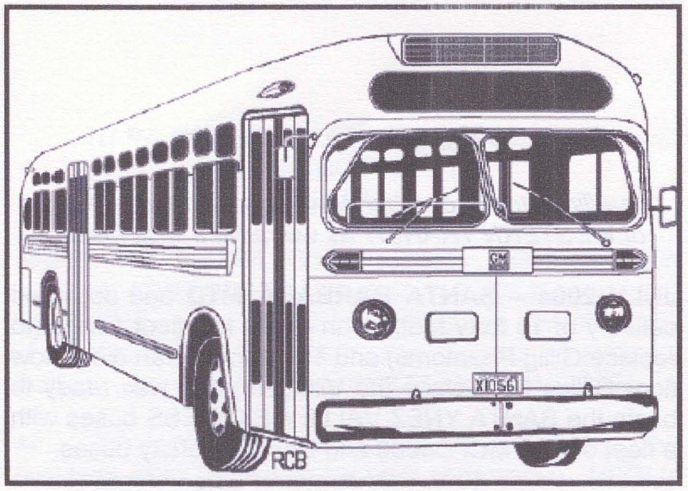


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VOL. 47, NO. 7 **July 2009**

SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (STA)

VALLEJO: **STA** is countywide transportation planning agency for Solano County that includes the cities of Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo and the County of Solano.

They manage funding and plan for **VALLEJO TRANSIT LINES, BAYLINK FERRY, BENICIA BREEZE, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN TRANSIT SYSTEM, VACAVILLE CITY COACH, DIXON REDI-RIDE** and **RIO VISTA DELTA BREEZE.**

Having transit service provided by six separate transit operators is somewhat unique for the Bay Area, but is not uncommon in the more rural areas of California. The services offered vary from those Vallejo operates including **VTL** local and intercity buses, local and intercity paratransit and subsidized taxis to the Dixon READI-RIDE paratransit.

In February 2007, **STA** initiated a study to examine and evaluate options to improve delivery and accountability of offering public transit and achieve efficiencies while addressing local issues and needs.

Earlier this year, a draft report was issued that outlines six possible service options. Some options include all systems, others involve as few as two. Phase 2 of the study will compare these options to the current system including details on management, maintenance and storage, paratransit operations and policies, governance issues and financial implications.

The studied options include -- 1) consolidation of **BENICIA** and **VALLEJO TRANSIT LINES** (**BAYLINK FERRY** and accompanying Bus Route 200-VACAVILLE -FAIRFIELD-VALLEJO) could stay separate, be part of the new system or more likely be merged into the new **WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY,** 2) consolidation of **VALLEJO, BENICIA** and **FAIRFIELD-SUISUN,** 3) consolidation of Central and North County fixed route and paratransit intercity, not local, including **FAIRFIELD-SUISUN**, **VACAVILLE, DIXON** and **RIO VISTA,** 4) consolidation of all paratransit and intercity services into a single operation, 5) functional countywide consolidation which could include a single organization (support staff) to handle the administrative, planning and financial responsibilities allowing the transit service managers to focus on service delivery issues with current transit operations likely remaining as now and 6) full county wide consolidation by merging the six systems into one, likely governed by a Joint Powers Authority to include membership of all cities and the County. This option could create a single, larger transit operator with a new organization that would replace all current transit systems and that could represent Solano County at the regional funding table.

The **STA** Board recently voted to consolidate **VALLEJO** and **BENICIA,** decentralize intercity paratransit to local systems, continue study of interregional Solano services under one operator, forward the recommended plan to the affected agencies, develop implementation plans for Options 1 and 4c and receive a status report on the plans at their September 2009 meeting.

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— OBITUARIES —

PATRICK HARDIE - *WT* recently learned that *WESTERN TRANSIT SOCIETY* Member #174, Patrick Hardie of San Diego, passed away in April, the victim of a heart attack.

Pat, a frequent contributor to *WT,* worked for the *SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD* for many years and was based in San Francisco. When he retired, he moved to San Diego and was a frequent attendee at *WTS, MOTOR BUS SOCIETY* and *BUS HISTORY ASSOCIATION* events, contributing many news stories and photos.

RALPH B. CLARK - Ralph Clark, 92, died in mid June after a long illness. He was instrumental in the formation of the *ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT* in the early 1970s when the agency existed only on paper, had no employees nor buses and faced strong opposition from those who argued against government operating a countywide transit system as a public enterprise.

He served as Chairman of the *OCTD* Board for almost 15 years until his retirement in 1987.

The conservative Democrat served on the Anaheim City Council and then four full terms as the non-partisan County Supervisor from the Fourth District, the longest tenure by any Democratic supervisor in Orange County history.

"PAGES FROM THE PAST"

(Headline stories or other news items from past issues of WESTERN TRANSIT as we relive transit history)

JULY 2004 – SANTA BARBARA MTD had accepted delivery of 15 forty foot, clean diesel low floor Gilligs (to replace Gillig Phantoms) and 11 29-foot clean diesel low floor Gilligs (to replace the Villagers) and was ready to begin the SANTA YNEZ VALLEY EXPRESS buses with a fleet of new MCI D4000 and D4500 intercity buses.

JULY 1999 – LONG BEACH TRANSIT established the $5 Day Tripper Pass, the All Day $1 Tour D'Art Pass, the new VILLAGE TOUR D'ART fixed route service and made changes to the downtown PASSPORT system.

JULY 1994 – The **PASADENA AREA RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM** started. **ARTS** was a downtown circulator connecting the old Pasadena and South Lake shopping districts with a fleet of six Bluebird Q buses, operated by *MAYFLOWER CONTRACT SERVICES.*

JULY 1989 – STANISLUS COUNTY TRANSIT began - a two route county system operating MODESTO-TURLOCK and MODESTO-RIVERBANK-OAKDALE routes with *STORER TRANSPORTATION SERVICE* as the contract operator.

JULY 1984 – The 1984 Summer Olympics bus service program operated between July 28 and August 13. **SCRTD** ran 24 bus routes (Park/Ride, Express and Shuttles) with a bus fleet totaling 550. **ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT, TORRANCE** and **SANTA MONICA** also ran a number of special services.

HOW TO CONTACT US
Edmund Buckley ebuckley@western-transit.com
Craig Barnes cabarnes@western-transit.com

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WT STAFF FOR THIS MONTH

EDITOR:	Edmund Buckley
ASSOCIATE EDITOR:	Craig Barnes
SENIOR CORRESPONDENT:	Jim Moore
SENIOR STAFF:	Alan Fong Andrew Novak
REPORTERS & SOURCES:	Dana Gabbard Lionel Jones Russ Jones Matt Lee Scott Page Warren F. Quon

NAPA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AND PLANNING AGENCY (NCTPA)

NAPA: The **NCTPA** Board recently voted to retain *VEOLIA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES* by awarding the firm a five year contract for operations, maintenance of equipment and facilities for the eight transit systems that comprise the **NCTPA** transit services *(WT 5/09).*

M. V. TRANSPORTATION was the other proposer. The two bids were judged to be very competitive. *VEOLIA* bid $27.1 million for the contract, $450,000 less than *MV,* but lost points for safety.

Last year, when they were put on notice about possible loss of contract, *VEOLIA* replaced the former General Manager with Reno Navarette, charged with the task to improve and retain the local operation.

The Board acknowledged the performance of the firm improved and also said it would be hard not to accept the less expensive offer with today's financial situation.

In March 2008, the agency awarded a new contract to *MV,* but rescinded the award when a procedural error by **NCTPA** staff was discovered *(WT 5/08).*

The **NAPA DOWNTOWN TROLLEY** will be dropped *(WT 5/09)* and replaced by a conventional bus route charging the regular **VINE** fare ($1.25) in late August. The bus will operate between downtown and Napa Premium Outlets via Main, 1st, Mall roadways and 2nd to Main. Staff was asked to consider extending the bus to the Oxbow district when the First Street bridge opens.

NDT began operations in May 2002 when the Napa City Council purchased three used motorized trolleys to carry an expected large number of tourists to Copia. Copia fizzled and trolley ridership was primarily locals, not tourists. Until last year, rides were free, subsidized by **NCTPA** and downtown merchants. Following imposition of fares, ridership dropped dramatically

One of the trolleys will be shifted to the **YOUNTVILLE SHUTTLE** until its new cutaways arrive later this year and the others will be placed in storage awaiting further assignments. **CALISTOGA HANDY VAN** will also be receiving a new vehicle and **VINE's** four gasoline hybrid New Flyers (fleet nos.154-157, model and VIN numbers unknown) should be arriving very soon.

SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT (RTD)

STOCKTON: April 23rd saw the opening of the **RTD** Mall Transfer Station on Yokuts Avenue between Pacific and Claremont Avenues. The transfer station is located between the Weberstown and Sherwood Malls and across the street from San Joaquin Delta College.

The station includes shelters, benches, a street clock, landscaping and signage. Outside the station area at both the east and west ends are two lighted crosswalks and along Yokuts are dedicated bus lanes allowing buses to pull out of the flow of traffic.

As they did during the winter holidays *(WT 1/09),* on Memorial Day and Independence Day, **RTD** operated limited Dial-A-Ride by reservation on a first-come, first-served basis with a premium fare of $5.00 per one-way trip. Priority was given to seniors and disabled persons.

This program was necessitated by reductions in transit funding. Holiday ridership is a fraction of regular service days, but with higher costs (holiday pay, etc).

SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT FREE SHUTTLE (SFO FS)

*SAN FRANCISCO: (Ed. Note - July 1st saw **BART** fare increase including raising the special San Francisco International Airport (SFO) surcharge from $1.50 to $4.00. This has caused quite an uproar at the airport with SFO officials demanding **BART** rescind the charge for lower wage airport employees. While discussions continue, a new bus route was established, funded by SFO and operated by **SFO SHUTTLE).***

The MILLBRAE STATION-SFO AIRPORT route meets every inbound train at Millbrae and operates non stop to and from the airport. The service was designed for use by SFO employees, but everyone is allowed to ride.

BART increased fares to offset state funding reductions, dropping sales tax revenue and reduced ridership and has not indicated a willingness to forgive the charge.

However, they offered to extend a 25 percent discount to all airport workers, something that previously applied only to airline employees. As well, all those who work in the City and County of San Francisco have the option of paying for **BART** tickets with pre-tax dollars taken from their pay checks before they are taxed, also saving an average of 25 percent. They could also save by using high-value tickets, an easy-rider system that allows users to buy $48 worth of tickets for $42.

GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT (GGT)

SAN RAFAEL: **GGT** recently issued an RFP for the purchase of a minimum of 17 and up to 38 forty-five foot intercity configuration coaches with options for an additional 65 buses with delivery by July 2010.

The High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane on Highway 101 recently opened through central San Rafael and most **GGT** bus lines were rescheduled to reflect the reduction in travel time.

NEW 101-SANTA ROSA-NOVATO-SAN FRANCISCO began operation replacing Route 80-SANTA ROSA-SAN FRANCISCO on weekdays before 700PM. The 80 will operate in the evening and all day on weekends.

Route 101 serves the same stops as the 80 between Santa Rosa and Novato at the Highway 101 & DeLong stop, then San Rafael Transit Center and the Spencer Avenue bus pad on Highway 101 and on to San Francisco operating along Lombard and Van Ness.

Route 10-STRAWBERRY-MILL VALLEY-SF trips were extended to Manzanita Parking lot in Mill Valley with all trips not serving Tam Valley continuing to Strawberry via Highway 101, serving the Seminary bus pad and Tiburon Wye stops on Tiburon Blvd. Route 10 was also rerouted onto Lombard and Van Ness.

NEW Route 92-MARIN CITY-SAUSALITO-SF operates on weekdays during extended peak hours beginning at Manzanita Park and Ride, serving Marin City and travels along the Geary corridor, replacing Route 10.

KINGS AREA RURAL TRANSIT (KART)

HANFORD: **KART** recently started a seventh downtown route, 7-NORTHWEST HANFORD, that operates every half hour making connections with the other six routes.

From the downtown transfer center, the line travels 11th Ave, Grangeville, 13th Ave and Lacey Blvd to the TC.

KART recently extended its weekday city operations until the final TC departure at 900PM.

TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN TULARE COUNTY

VISALIA: Four transit systems in Tulare County recently issued a collaborative RFP to provide bidders the opportunity to maximize overhead and operating efficiency by bidding on between one and four contracts.

VISALIA TRANSIT, TULARE COUNTY AREA TRANSIT, TULARE INTERMODAL EXPRESS and **DINUBA AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT** joined forces to optimize the potential for economies of scale.

*(Ed. Note - Presently, while MV TRANSPORTATION operates all of these contracts individually, they do use **VISALIA's** garage as the single base of operation).*

GOLDEN EMPIRE TRANSIT (GET)

BAKERSFIELD: Last April 19th **GET** implemented several route and schedule changes, primarily on weekends, to respond to continual increases in ridership

Saturday/Sunday headways were improved on 5-VALLEY PLAZA-BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE, 7-KERN MEDICAL CENTER-STOCKDALE HIGH, 9-FOOTHILL-HAL MOON and 11-CAL STATE-BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE.

On Saturday, Line 9 now serves the Adult School (by passenger request only) and the line was also extended to Pioneer & Oswell on Sunday. Line 11 was extended to Village Lane on weekends.

Both new and used buses are in the agency's future.

The **GET** Board recently ordered 27 forty-foot, low floor, CNG buses from New Flyer. The order has options for up to 50 additional buses over the next five years.

In June, **GET** approved purchase of nine 30-foot, Orion V CNG powered buses from **GOLD COAST TRANSIT** of Oxnard/Ventura, their 3100-3108. *(Ed. Note - most interesting is that the purchase price is $1.50 per bus).*

GOLD COAST TRANSIT (GCT)

OXNARD: As part of the adopted FY 2009-10 budget, **GET** will be discontinuing four routes, starting a new one and modifying an existing route.

Most changes were implemented on July 12 including the discontinuation of weekday peak hour 30X-OTC-VTC EXPRESS, 31X-OJAI-GOVERNMENT CENTER/ OTC EXPRESS and 32X-OTC-OJAI EXPRESS.

16-OJAI-VENTURA was rescheduled to operate hourly and, in Ojai, was modified to begin/end at the junction of Highways 33 and 150 (Von's Shopping Center). Transfers to and from **OJAI TROLLEY** are available for Meiners Oaks and Fox Street Park N-Ride riders.

Funded on a demonstration basis, new 40-MARKET/ VALENTINE SHUTTLE began. This bus travels between the County Government Center and the Ventura Adult Education/Technology Development Center operating primarily along Valentine Road, Market Street and Telephone Road.

Route 12-VENTURA DOWNTOWN/HARBOR will be discontinued on September 7th. *(Ed. Note - this line has been discontinued twice before and was operated by the City of Ventura Harbors and Beaches for a while).*

SANTA MONICA'S BIG BLUE BUS (BBB)

SANTA MONICA: The City Council recently approved the purchase of eleven CNG powered, low floor, articulated, Model 60-BRT buses from North American Bus Industries (NABI) with options to buy up to ten more over a four year period. Expected assignments for these bus will be RAPID 3-LINCOLN and RAPID 7-PICO BL.

The new buses will replace the 1995 model, diesel powered, Nova Bus Classics 4801-4821.

June 19th brought the summer service change. Line 10-LOS ANGELES EXPRESS was rerouted along Alameda to Temple to Hope/Grand, serving the soon-to-open GOLD LINE Station. SUPER 12-PALMS-UCLA was suspended during the UCLA summer break (June 15-September 11). Service frequency on SUNSET RIDE was reduced for the summer while CROSSTOWN RIDE evening hours were shortened to 800PM Monday thru Thursday and to 630PM on Friday.

LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (LADOT)

LOS ANGELES: FIRST TRANSIT, INC. is operating the Region 1 COMMUTER EXPRESS routes (South Bay and Westside) while *MV TRANSPORTATION* operates Region 2 (San Fernando Valley) *(WT 8/08).*

The **LADOT** fleet now includes at least 17 new EZ Rider II buses (09301-09317), replacing remaining RE-32 buses (98001-98014 and 98031-98032). 09301-09302 have been seen on D-DOWNTOWN-SOUTH PARK, 09303-09305 are on DASH/WILMINGTON and 09315-09317 have been seen in the San Fernando Valley.

The SAN PEDRO WATERFRONT RED CAR LINE is now operating Friday to Sunday between 1000AM and 900PM instead of the former Friday to Monday 1000AM-600PM. The $1.00 all-day fare and connecting buses to Cabrillo Beach and Downtown San Pedro continue.

SANTA CLARITA TRANSIT (SCT)

SANTA CLARITA: On July 2nd, the city inaugurated the HOMETOWN TROLLEY TOURISM ROUTE connecting service from the city's premier hotels to destinations including Six Flags Magic Mountain, Six Flags Hurricane Harbor and Westfield Valencia Town Center. The route operates Thursday thru Sunday and is complimentary.

The Trolley stops at the following hotels — La Quinta Inn & Suites, Comfort Suites, Holiday Inn Express & Best Western, Hilton Garden Inn, Courtyard By Marriott & Embassy Suites and Hyatt Regency Valencia.

On August 2nd, **SCT** will inaugurate the new 757-NO HO EXPRESS, operating between the Santa Clarit neighborhoods of Newhall and Valencia and Nort Hollywood at **MTA** RED LINE/ORANGE LINE Station a Lankershim and Chandler Blvds on weekdays an between Valencia's McBean Regional Transit Cente and North Hollywood on weekends.

This line replaces the former Line 8-SANTA CLARITA SYLMAR/SAN FERNANDO that charged the Local fare of $1.00. The Line 757 cash fare is $2.50 *(Ed. Note- other **SCT** express lines charge either $3.50 or $4.00).*

The weekday peak headway is 30 minutes (3 buses with a midday headway averaging 90 minutes (1 bus)

The weekend headway is 75 minutes using 1 bus.

Buses operate in a one-way loop within Santa Clarit From RED LINE Station, the bus travels on Lankershim Burbank Blvd, Hollywood 170 Freeway, Golden State Fwy, Sierra Hwy, Newhall Ave, Railroad Ave, Cinem Dr, Valencia Blvd, Rockwell Canyon Rd, McBean Parkway, Golden State 5 Fwy, Hollywood 170 Fwy Burbank and Lankershim to Chandler.

Five other **SCT** lines were discontinued - 503-SECO CANYON-METROLINK, 504-BOUQUET CANYON METROLINK, 747-LOS ANGELES MIDDAY COMMUTER, 793-SHERMAN OAKS-SANTA CLARIT and 798-SANTA CLARITA-SHERMAN OAKS.

NEVADA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (NTA)

LAS VEGAS, NV: Over its last four meetings, **NTA** ha conducted hearings for a large number of applications o transportation companies including the request o **REGENT HOLIDAYS, INC.** for an extension of the interim/temporary authority approval due to exigen circumstances of their application to expand and modif their charter bus authority (CPCN 2047) by addin airport transfers and special service, the request o **NORTH SHORE COACHES, LLC** for voluntar cancellation of their contract carrier Permit MV 6134, th joint application of **Tommy E. Parker dba AZTE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES** for authority to se and transfer and of **El Camino Charter Lines, Inc.** dba **EL CAMINO TRAILWAYS** to purchase and acquire th authority to provide intrastate charter bus service unde CPCN 2048 and the application of **Vegas Con Expres and Wear, LLC dba LAS VEGAS CON EXPRESS** for certificate of public convenience and necessity to offe charter bus service within Nevada.

Other applications included the request of **LAS VEGA STRIP TROLLEY** for permission to extend the temporary discontinuance of operations under CPC 2004, Sub 7 through September 30, 2009 and the join

application of **LAS VEGAS STRIP TROLLEY, INC.** for authority to sell and transfer and of **OPEN TOP SIGHTSEEING OF LAS VEGAS** to purchase and acquire the authority to provide charter bus and special service within Nevada and to provide regular route bus service in Clark County under CPCN 2004, Sub 7.

Other matters included the application of **Nevada Lines, Inc. dba SILVER STATE TOURS** to voluntarily cancel their CPCN 2071, applications of **Trimont Land Company dba NORTHSTAR AT TAHOE RESORT** and **CLASSIC TOURS, INC,** both for certificates of public convenience and necessity to provide charter bus service within Nevada.

At its July meeting, the Authority planned to discuss the impact of the recent Federal District Court opinion (Case No. 2.08-cv-00777-RLH-LRL, Brown's Crew Car of Wyoming, LLC v. Nevada Transportation Authority and Ignecio Garijo dba Winnemucca Cab) declaring the transport of railroad crews within Nevada wholly interstate in nature, and request staff determine which applications and/or certificates are affected and take appropriate actions (e.g., file motions to dismiss).

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN NEVADA (RTC)

LAS VEGAS, NV: The **RTC** recently approved a two year extension (to September 2011) of the current *VEOLIA TRANSPORTATION, INC.* maintenance and operations contract *(Ed. Note - the firm has continually operated the **CITIZENS AREA TRANSIT** fixed route service contract, beginning in 1993 as ATC/VANCOM).*

RTC has filed a number of applications for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) money to support the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to improve access to jobs and employment related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals.

The plans include money to fund a northern extension of **RTC** 119-SIMMONS to bring workers to the outlying areas in the North Las Vegas community of Aliante and a southern extension to Sunset Road, including a southern swing to Valley View.

Other extensions include lengthening 103-DECATUR south to terminate south of CC-215 to serve new businesses in the area including the new **CAT** operating garage at Decatur and Sunset, offer an alternate route for 201-TROPICANA to serve the developing area south of CC-215, south on Rainbow to Warm Springs.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION/ CITIZENS AREA TRANSIT (RTC/CAT)

LAS VEGAS, NV: **RTC** will unveil the new *ACE* express bus system next January that will include dedicated lanes on downtown Las Vegas streets and ticket vending machines to sell bus tickets.

The plan is to create an express bus system viewed as fast, comfortable and competitive with the automobile.

The heart of the system will be Central City Terminal, at Casino Center Blvd and Bonneville Avenue.

The *ACE* system will open with three routes—the C LINE from Centennial Hills to Central City Terminal and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the BLUE LINE which will run on Las Vegas Blvd from Craig Road to Central City and the GOLD LINE which will run on Las Vegas Blvd South (The Strip) from the South Strip Transfer Terminal north to the Convention Center and on to the downtown Central City terminal.

The W LINE, a future route to/from Summerlin and a cross town line along Sahara Avenue are also planned.

SOUTHERN NEVADA TRANSIT COALITION (SNTC)

LAUGHLIN, NV: **SNTC** also filed JARC applications, first, to expand fixed route service hours within the rural areas of Mesquite, Laughlin and Boulder City to allow for the transportation of workers to jobs in those areas. They also filed for money to expand current operating hours to provide additional rides for medical appointments from Boulder City, to expand existing service transporting individuals from Laughlin to Las Vegas for dialysis and other medical appointments from three days per week to six days and to expand the size of the existing Sun City/Mesquite service area to offer residents who are elderly and/or disabled.

PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

TUCSON, AZ: The **RTA** recently awarded *MV TRANSPORTATION, INC.* a new five-year contract (three years with two, one-year options), to operate the Neighborhood Circulator Bus Systems component **(SUN CONNECT)** of the regional transportation plan *(WT 2/09)* providing bus service in the Green Valley/ Sahuarita, Oro Valley/Catalina and Marana areas.

Six firms submitted proposals. In addition to *MV, FIRST TRANSIT, INC., VALU TRANS, YUMA TRANSIT, VEOLIA TRANSPORTATION* and *AMERICAN PONY EXPRESS* all offered bids. The *MV* submittal was selected based upon best overall value.

VENTURA INTERCITY TRANSIT SERVICE AUTHORITY (VISTA)
Oxnard , CA

FLEET #	BUILDER	MODEL	SERIAL #	YEAR	NOTES
61314	Van Hool	C2045	32045888	00/03	Ex CA Charter 61314
63169	Prevost	Le Mirage XL 45	11027498	00/01	Ex CA Charter 63169
63170	Prevost	Le Mirage XL 45	11027501	00/01	Ex CA Charter 63170
63201-203	Van Hool	C2045	32045938-940	00/03	
63206	Van Hool	C2045	32045943	00/03	
63208	Van Hool	C2045	32045945	00/03	
64554	Prevost	Le Mirage XL 45	11027423	00/01	Ex Arrow Stage (AZ) 64554
67123	MCI	102DL3	WP050653	01/98	Ex Antelope Valley Bus 7123
156252	MCI	J4500	3P062094	00/03	Ex Lakefront Lines (OH) 252
156253	MCI	J4500	5W062936	00/05	Ex Lakefront Lines (OH) 253
156260-261	MCI	J4500	3W062324-325	00/03	Ex Lakefront Lines (OH) 260-261
61400	MCI	J4500	7W064417	00/07	Ex Megabus/Cal Charter 61400
61402-405	MCI	J4500	7W064419-422	00/07	Ex Megabus/Cal Charter 61402-405
61406-407	MCI	J4500	7W064424-425	00/07	Ex Megabus/Cal Charter 61406-407
61408	MCI	J4500	7W064423	00/07	Ex Megabus/Cal Charter 61408
61409-410	MCI	J4500	7W064426-427	00/07	Ex Megabus/Cal Charter 61409-410

NOTES:
The **VISTA** fleet is owned and operated by *COACH AMERICA/LOS ANGELES (CALIFORNIA CHARTER)* and is stored at the *COACH AMERICA* garage in Oxnard.

VISTA operates commuter service in and between Ventura County points and the Warner Center area of the San Fernando Valley and the **COASTAL EXPRESS** between Oxnard, Ventura, Santa Barbara and Goleta.



Seattle Central Link Map

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (SOUND TRANSIT - ST)

SEATTLE, WA: July 18th brought the opening of **ST's** new 14-mile *CENTRAL LINK* light rail line connecting downtown Seattle (at Westlake Station) and Tukwila International Blvd Station with a special *LINK AIRPORT CONNECTOR* bus until December when construction to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SeaTac) finishes.

The train and the bus operate between 500AM and midnight on headways that vary between 7 and 15 minutes, depending upon time of day.

The *LINK* uses the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel in cooperation with **KING COUNTY METRO** buses. The rail line also includes at grade and elevated segments.

In the southern portion of **ST's** service area, current work on *TACOMA LINK's* concrete guideway along Commerce Street in downtown Tacoma will temporarily relocate all buses onto Pacific Avenue.

Beginning August 8th, FREE *TACOMA LINK* buses will operate along an alignment and schedule very similar to the trains while **PIERCE TRANSIT, INTERCITY TRANSIT** and **SOUND TRANSIT** Express buses are relocated to Pacific Avenue between South 9th and South 11th.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

(All properties are located in California unless otherwise noted)

PROPERTY	FLEET #'S	BUILDER	MODEL/SERIAL #'S	DATE	NOTES
-NEW-					
Coach America/LV (KT)	50047	BCI	Falcon 45/8A450047	00/08	
-USED-					
Coach America/LA (CC)	69121-69122	Van Hool	C2045/42045917-918	00/04	1
	43095	Van Hool	T2145/W2043095	00/98	1
	43231	Van Hool	T2145/X2043231	00/99	1
	156284 (284)	MCI	J4500/85062936	00/08	2
Liberty Charter	47	MCI	102EL3/XP060506	00/99	3
Transportes Intercalifornias	1003	MCI	102DL3/TP048822	07/96	4
	1004	MCI	102DL3/VP049237	00/97	3
-DISPOSITIONS-					
AC Transit	2700 (7)	Gillig	30102TB6V92TAC/mixed	01/91	5
	2800 (4)	Gillig	40102TB6V92TA/mixed	01/93	6
	2900 (8)	NABI	416.09/mixed	08/97	7
	7202,7206,7216	NABI	040.07/XA140192,196,206	01/00	8
San Francisco MUNI	7000 (18)	New Flyer	E-60/mixed	00/93	9
Inyo-Mono Transit	Unknown	Ford/ElDorado	Econ/Aerotech/SHC02926	00/95	10
	Unknown	Ford/ElDorado	Econ/Aerotech/WHA10141	00/98	10
	659-660	Ford/ElDorado	Econ/Aerotech/XHA75289, 288	00/99	10
	871	Ford/ElDorado	Econ/Aerotech/2HB64922	00/02	10

-NOTES-

1. Ex Coach America/Las Vegas (KT Contract Services), same numbers.
2. Ex Lakefront Lines (OH) 284.
3. Ex Unknown.
4. Ex Bellingham-Sumas Stages (WA) 5506.
5. Buses 2719, 2739, 2741, 2742, 2744, 2747, 2751 with VINs M1083840, N1083860, 862, 863, 865, 868, 872—auctioned 12/07.
6. Buses 2811, 2822, 2839, 2845 with VINs P1084660, 671, 688, 694—auctioned 12/07.
7. Eight 2900s to Valley Ride in Boise (ID)—2951 is NB02 and 2953 is NB01, other six unknown.
8. To Johnson County Transit (KS) —.
9. Buses 7002, 7004, 7006, 7008, 7014, 7016, 7023-7027, 7029, 7036-7037, 7042, 7047-7048, 7050 with VINs PU014984, 986, 988, 990, 996, 998, 5005-009, 010, 017-018, 023, 028-029, 031 — all being scrapped.
10. Auctioned in November 2008.

July Photos





LEFT: *San Francisco MUNI 7006 on the 14 Mission line. Photographer unknown.* ***RIGHT:*** *VISTA 61410 (ex Megabus 61410) on October 28, 2008. Photo by Michael Strauch.*