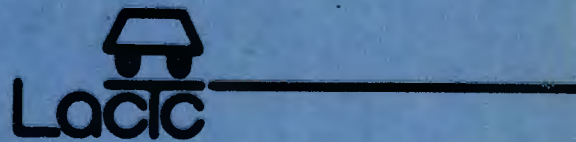


executive summary

**Transition Plan  
for  
Los Angeles County**

in compliance with  
**Section 504  
of the  
Rehabilitation Act of 1973**



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) has prepared a County-wide Transition Plan. The plan addresses the activities of 13 fixed-route bus and paratransit operators in Los Angeles County in providing accessible transportation to handicapped persons. It assesses these actions as well as the operator's future plans in terms of compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The specific application of this regulation to mass transportation projects was published in the Federal Register on May 31, 1979. This document responds to the requirements stipulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation in this final rule implementing Section 504.

This Executive Summary condenses the draft Transition Plan. Its purpose is to provide basic information about the plan to a large number of people. Copies of the full plan are available for public review at numerous locations throughout Los Angeles County, including:

- . LACTC office,
- . Transit operator offices, and
- . Los Angeles City and County libraries.

Agencies and individuals who received full copies of the plan have also been asked to make it available to all interested individuals.



1. ALL TRANSIT OPERATORS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY WILL ACHIEVE PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY BY JULY 1, 1982

Included in the assessment are the following fixed-route and paratransit operators:

- . Fixed-route service operators
  - Southern California Rapid Transit District
  - Long Beach Transit
  - Santa Monica Municipal Bus Lines
  - Montebello Municipal Bus Lines
  - Gardena Municipal Bus Lines
  - Torrance Transit System
  - Norwalk Transit System
  - Culver City Municipal Bus Lines
  - Commerce Transit System
  
- . Paratransit service operators
  - Long Beach Dial-a-Lift
  - Montebello Dial-a-Lift
  - Gardena Elderly & Handicapped System
  - Torrance Dial-a-Lift
  - Norwalk Dial-a-Lift
  - Commerce Medi-Ride
  - LaMirada Dial-a-Ride
  - Arcadia Dial-a-Ride
  - Redondo Beach Dial-a-Ride
  - Claremont Dial-a-Ride

Each of the operators has prepared a Transition Plan for its own system. These individual plans have been synthesized and analyzed to form the basis for this County-wide Plan.

- (1) Each Operator Will Have Sufficient Accessible Vehicles to Provide the Required Level of Accessible Service by July 1, 1982

Presently, there are 312 accessible fixed-route buses in Los Angeles County. By 1982, there will be 1,630. All nine fixed-route operators will have acquired buses with features that make them accessible to handicapped persons





who can use steps as well as those who use wheelchairs. Operators will have enough vehicles to meet the following service requirements:

- . At least one-half of peak-hour fixed-route service will be provided with accessible vehicles.
- . Paratransit services will have enough vehicles to provide a level of service for handicapped persons that is generally equal to the service provided for non-handicapped persons.

A determination has been made based on peak vehicle requirements and ridership rates that all operators will be able to provide these levels of accessible service by the required July 1, 1982 deadline.

(2) Many Fixed Facilities Are Already Accessible; Others Will Be Modified or Replaced by July 1, 1982

Fixed facilities include administrative and registration offices, ticket sales offices, terminals, park-and-ride lots, and bus shelters. Each operator has identified the accessibility features and barriers for their own facilities. Most have been found to be accessible by virtue of wide doors, level entryways, curb cuts, ramps, elevators or first floor offices, accessible restrooms, and accessible telephones and drinking fountains. Some of the inaccessible facilities will not be in use by July 1, 1982. These include:

- . The downtown Los Angeles Greyhound Terminal used by SCRTD and Gardena,



- . Torrance's operations facility, and
- . Torrance's downtown terminal.

Each will be replaced with accessible facilities.

Other facilities are being remodeled and will be modified for accessibility. Two such examples are the administrative facilities for Long Beach Transit and Santa Monica Municipal Bus Lines.

(3) Program Policies and Practices Do Not Prevent Program Accessibility From Being Achieved

Each operator's program policies and practices for fixed-route and paratransit service were evaluated in 13 different areas. Though minor modifications may be required to formalize a particular policy, there are no existing policies which serve as barriers to accessibility. These modifications should be in place well before the July 1, 1982 deadline.

2. LACTC ACTIVELY ENCOURAGES THE HANDICAPPED COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING, REVIEW, AND MONITORING OF THIS TRANSITION PLAN

The Commission has worked closely with its Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Advisory Council during the preparation of this plan. The Council includes representatives of handicapped groups, agencies and consumers.

Their present efforts involve responding to comments received during the public review process and preparing for



the five public workshops. They will be involved in monitoring the implementation of this plan.

(1) The Plan Is Being Distributed Throughout the County

The plan will be available for public review for at least thirty days. Reviewers are encouraged to submit verbal or written comments to the Commission. The final plan will contain responses to all substantive concerns raised during the public review process.

(2) Five Public Workshops Will Be Held Throughout the County

The schedule for the public workshops is as follows:

| <u>Area of the County</u> | <u>Date</u>                | <u>Time</u>    | <u>Location</u>   |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---|
| South Bay                 | Monday, August 25, 1980    | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | Gardena Community Center (Auditorium)<br>1700 West 162nd Street<br>Gardena, California, 90247                           |
| West Los Angeles          | Tuesday, August 26, 1980   | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | Federal Building<br>11000 Wilshire Boulevard<br>Los Angeles, California 90024   |
| Mid-Cities                | Wednesday, August 27, 1980 | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Apollo Park Neighborhood Center (Auditorium)<br>12458 Rives Avenue<br>Downey, California 90242                          |
| San Fernando Valley       | Thursday, August 28, 1980  | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | VanNuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Citizens<br>Center (Auditorium)<br>5040 VanNuys Boulevard<br>Sherman Oaks, California 91423 |
| San Gabriel Valley        | Thursday, August 28, 1980  | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | El Monte Senior Citizens Center<br>3120 Tyler Avenue<br>El Monte, California 91731                                      |



Transit operators, LACTC staff, and members of the Advisory Council will be at the workshops to lead discussions and answer questions. All workshop locations are wheelchair accessible. Accessible transportation - - transit service and designated parking spaces - - will also be available at these sites. Specific information can be obtained from transit operators and LACTC.

(3) A Public Hearing Will Be Held on Thursday, September 18, in Downtown Los Angeles

The hearing will be held at the Department of Water and Power, "A" level auditorium, at 111 North Hope Street. Two sessions will be held: an afternoon session from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M., and an evening session from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.

- . The hearing location is accessible.
- . Several accessible bus routes serve the building. Reserved parking will also be available.
- . Oral interpretation service will be available.
- . Spanish interpreters will be available.

The Commission looks forward to your participation and comments.

