



# San Diego Metropolitan Transit System San Diego, California

MAG Regional Transit Framework Study • November 2008

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System, known as MTS, is the regional transit agency for the San Diego, California metropolitan area. The Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB) was established in 1975 by the approval of California Senate Bill 101. In 2005, MTDB changed its name to the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS). Today MTS provides service to more than 70 percent of San Diego County and is responsible for determining routing, stops, frequency of service and hours of operation for all transit service. MTS transit service consists of nearly 100 express and local bus routes, three trolley or LRT routes, and demand response service. The San Diego Coast Express Rail is regional commuter rail service operated by the San Diego Northern Railway.

Consisting of 10 cities and parts of 2 counties, MTS is directed by a 15 member board.

## MEMBER CITIES

San Diego	Chula Vista	Coronado
El Cajon	La Mesa	Imperial Beach
Poway	Lemon Grove	Santee
National City		

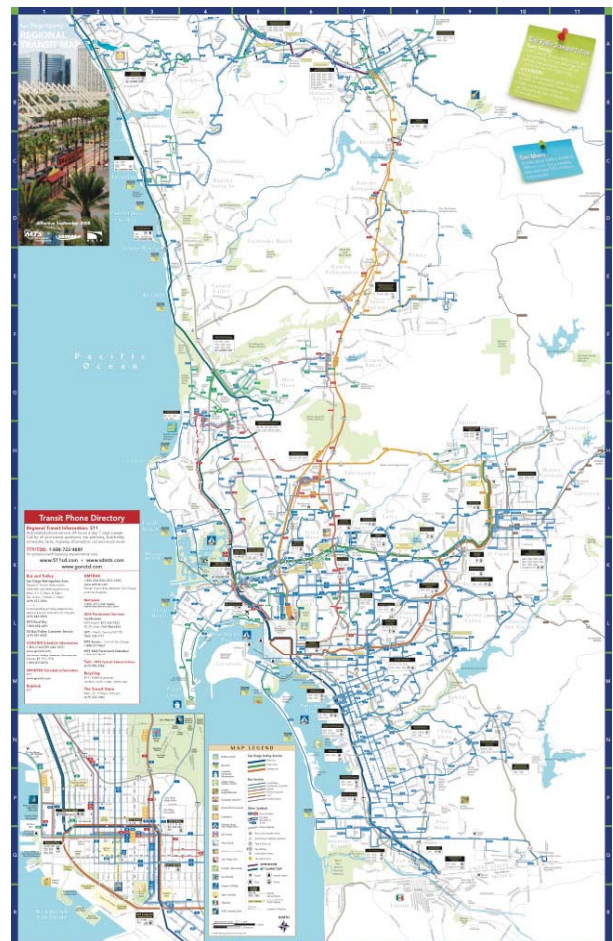
## REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Population: 2,722,000  
Land Area: 782 sq mi

## REGIONAL MODES

- Local/Express Bus
- Light Rail
- Commuter Rail\*
- Demand Response
- Vanpool Service\*

\*Operated by other transit agency



Source: SDMTS, 2008

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Weekday / Weekend

Local Bus: 4:30am – 2:30am / 5:00am – 1:30am

Light Rail: 4:00am – 2:00am / 4:30 – 1:00am

Commuter Rail: 5:20am – 8:00pm / 8:30am – 7:40pm

Demand Response: 4:30am – 2:30am / 5:00am – 1:30 am

## FUNDING

TransNet, a 20-year local sales tax initiative, was approved by San Diego County voters in 1988 and allocates one-third of the total revenue of a one-half-cent sales tax toward public transit projects. A 40-year extension of TransNet was approved by voters in 2004 that included a series of Early Action Projects aimed at expanding highways, adding lanes to support BRT, and expanding the light rail and commuter rail systems. Voters also recently passed a series of propositions in support of transit including a gasoline and local sales tax in 2006.

## FUTURE EXPANSION

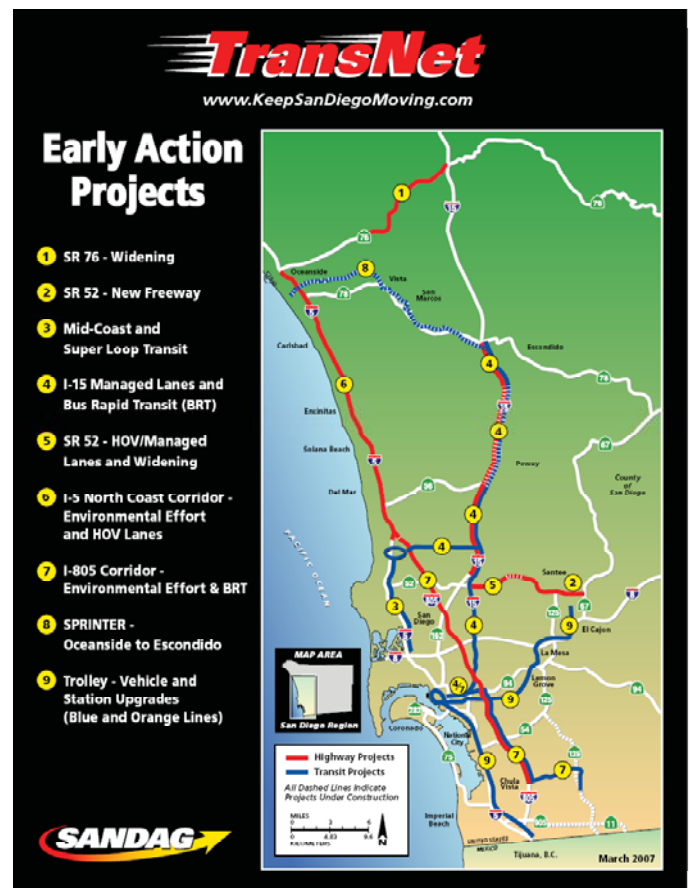
- Super Loop – 7.5-miles of BRT opening in 2008
- Mid City Rapid Bus – 10-miles of BRT opening in 2011
- I-15 BRT – 20-miles of BRT opening in 2012
- Mid-Coast Ext. – 11-miles of LRT opening in 2014
- South Bay BRT – TBD BRT opening in 2015

## SUSTAINABILITY GOALS/POLICIES

- The local sales tax, TransNet, provides capital and operation funding
- MTS balances its operating budget each year with recurring revenues
- MTS continues to fund ongoing maintenance programs while maintaining a healthy reserve

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Carried 90.6 million passengers in FY 08
- 38.7% System-Wide farebox recovery ratio FY 08
- Improved all systems productivity indicators
- Reorganized 5 separate operations into 1 agency (MTS)
- Opened new 5.9 mile Light Rail segment
- Conducted and implemented a Comprehensive Operations Analysis, moving toward a market driven system
- Reduced average age of bus fleet from 9.6 to 6.7 years
- 70% of bus fleet is compressed natural gas powered



Source: SDMTS, 2008