

# About the District



## Where we've been...

California Senate Bill No. 802 created the North San Diego County Transit Development Board on September 30, 1975. The Board was created to plan, construct and operate public transit systems in our geographic area, North San Diego County. Our region of responsibility encompasses approximately 1,020 square miles from the Pacific Ocean east to Ramona and from the Orange County Line south to Del Mar.

OUR ORIGINAL AND CONTINUING PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE WITHIN SAN DIEGO'S NORTH COUNTY REGION.

One of the first actions taken by the Board was to acquire the municipal transit systems operated by the cities of Escondido and Oceanside. This consolidation of the original municipal transit systems resulted in the creation of the North County Transit District (NCTD) which was established on July 1,

1976. Our original and continuing purpose is to provide an integrated public transit service within San Diego's North County region. In our first full year of service, NCTD carried over 4 million passengers!

Our Board of Directors is comprised of one member of each of the city councils in our region: Carlsbad, Del Mar, Encinitas, Escondido, Oceanside, Solana Beach, San Marcos and Vista and one member from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

In addition to operating the BREEZE bus system, on June 2, 1994, the North San Diego County Transit Development Board created a non-profit corporation called the San Diego Northern Railway (SDNR). The purpose of the SDNR is to maintain, enhance and operate the San Diego Northern Railway facility and the COASTER. Several railroad companies, including the COASTER, Metrolink, Amtrak and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) share our railroad tracks

which date back to the 1880s when the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway (AT&SF) first built tracks along the Pacific Coast.

## Where we are now...

The largest portion of our passengers use the BREEZE bus system. Our fleet numbers 145 fixed route vehicles with a reserve fleet used for emergencies and special events. More than half of our buses are now powered by environmentally-friendly Compressed Natural Gas. Operating our buses safely and efficiently are coach operators committed to delivering safe, convenient and reliable bus service. The critical task of maintaining our fleet of buses falls to a staff of experienced professionals.

Today, the COASTER train, operated by TransitAmerica Inc., carries commuters and tourists on a 41-mile route between Oceanside and San Diego six days per week with an average of 6,000 passengers on weekdays. Over 1.5 million

passengers currently travel on the COASTER each year while more than 9 million riders catch the BREEZE annually.

The SPRINTER, a new light rail service connecting Oceanside to Escondido along 22 miles of existing railroad right-of-way opened for passenger service in March, 2008. A 1.7 mile loop also extends to Cal State University in San Marcos. Connections to 15 stations in Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos and Escondido, roughly paralleling busy state highway 78, alleviates sometimes painfully slow travel times in the area.

the BREEZE buses and COASTER and SPRINTER trains. Service for people with disabilities accounts for 5% of the expenditures. Another 3.7% of the operating budget goes toward maintaining the coastal and inland railroad.

NCTD utilizes a number of separate facilities within North San Diego County. The main administrative office is located on Mission Avenue in Oceanside, while a smaller office serving the rail division is located at the Oceanside Transit Center.

located in Escondido. Using the combined resources of the San Diego Northern Railway, the COASTER, the SPRINTER and an efficient fleet of BREEZE buses, we provide more than 12.5 million passenger trips per year.

**For more information...**

For trip planning and other transit information call 511 or visit [www.511sd.com](http://www.511sd.com).

Transit trip planning is also available on Google Maps.

WE PROVIDE MORE THAN 12.5  
MILLION PASSENGER TRIPS PER YEAR.

In addition to the BREEZE, the SPRINTER and the COASTER, NCTD operates LIFT – a paratransit service provided to those people with disabilities that are unable to use the accessible fixed-route system.

NCTD's total operating budget is \$87.8 million, with a Capital budget of \$10 million. Nearly 90% of the District's expenditures are committed to operating, maintaining, fueling and staffing

We also maintain two facilities incorporating both bus operations and vehicle maintenance. Our West Division is located in Oceanside approximately 3 miles east of the main office while the East Division is located in the heart of Escondido near the Escondido Transit Center. The COASTER maintenance and storage facility is located at Stuart Mesa on the grounds of Camp Pendleton Marine Corp Base. The SPRINTER operations facility is

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