

New Rapid Bus Route from Otay Mesa to Downtown Debuts Sunday

The San Diego <u>Metropolitan Transit System</u> will begin <u>Rapid bus</u> service from Otay Mesa to downtown San Diego on Sunday.

The Rapid 225 route runs from the new Otay Mesa Transit Center near the port of entry to Santa Fe Depot in downtown San Diego.

"We are thrilled to celebrate the launch of the new Rapid transit line," said Chula Vista Mayor Mary Casillas Salas. "This project helps fulfill our vision to provide more competitive, environmentally sustainable, and active transportation choices."

The 26-mile route has 12 stops from Otay Mesa through eastern Chula Vista into downtown San Diego. The route will travel along the South Bay Expressway, eastern Chula Vista, Interstate 805, and State Route 94.

South Bay *Rapid* will operate daily from 4:30 a.m. until 11 p.m. The estimated travel time from Otay Mesa to Downtown San Diego is approximately 60-70 minutes during peak morning hours, and approximately 60-65 minutes during peak evening hours.

Buses run every 15-30 minutes on weekdays, and every 30 minutes on weekends. To promote the new Rapid service, all rides on the new South Bay route will be free from Monday, Jan. 27, to Saturday, Feb. 2.

"The new South Bay Rapid service will connect employment, entertainment, and activity centers in downtown San Diego with residential communities in South County," said MTS Board Chair Georgette Gómez, "Regional connections like this are essential to the economic future of South County."

Rapid bus service features high-frequency, limited-stop service, and upgraded bus and station amenities. Rapid buses get signal priority and dedicated lanes on some routes.

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