

## Fare Changes **Coming September 1**

In order to simplify the fare structure across the San Diego Region—including the North County Transit District (NCTD) and San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS)—new fares approved by the San Diego Association of Governments Board will be implemented on September 1. These fares include increases and decreases in cost, as well as changes in fare structure. The last fare change that occurred was an overall decrease in price, and occurred seven years ago. Over the past ten years, operational costs for NCTD have increased, while fare revenue has declined. Increased fare revenue from this change will assist NCTD in maintaining high levels of service for its customers. ■

### FARE CHANGES

- Single one-way fare price (\$2.50) for MTS Bus, Trolley, Rapid, SPRINTER, and BREEZE
- Addition of a \$3 Day Pass for Seniors/Disabled/Medicare (SDM) and Youth for MTS Bus, Trolley, Rapid, SPRINTER, and BREEZE (\$6 for Rapid Express and FLEX)
- One discounted pass price of \$23 for SDM and Youth for MTS Bus, Trolley, Rapid, SPRINTER, and BREEZE (\$32 for Rapid Express and FLEX)
- Increase in the minimum age for senior discounts from 60 to 65 years (seniors 60 or older prior to September 1, 2019 will remain eligible for reduced fares)
- Price increases for COASTER one-way, Day Pass and 30-Day/Monthly Passes
- Elimination of 2, 3, 4, and 14-day passes
- Elimination of Trolley transfers to align with bus policy
- Elimination of the SPRINTER/BREEZE monthly pass (will now be \$72 and include service on the MTS bus and Trolley)
- Price increase to \$6 for the Adult Regional Day Pass



## Bus Stop Improvements



NCTD has entered into an agreement with vendor IBI Group to design bus stop improvements and provide construction support for 18 BREEZE bus stops located in Escondido, Oceanside, and Vista. These stops were identified for improvement based on specified criteria including a

need for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements, customer usage, and customer feedback. The agreement with IBI Group and the future construction improvements are part of NCTD's Bus Stop Optimization Program to improve transit system speed, consolidate underutilized stops, potentially improve fuel economy, and improve bus stop infrastructure to enhance the customer experience. NCTD's Bus Stop Optimization Program will be implemented in phases to add amenities

and upgrades for compliance with ADA requirements including new shelters, benches, trash cans, and bus stop signposts. It is estimated that the design phase of the bus stop improvement project will be completed by September 2019 with construction plans to follow. In addition, NCTD staff is currently identifying the top 100 bus stops that need improvement to meet the transportation needs of our North County riders. ■

On-Time Performance (OTP) (FY2019 Q3, January-March 2019)		
Mode	Ridership	OTP/OTP Goal
BREEZE	1,530,680	89.5%/90%
SPRINTER	592,925	98.1%/98%

\* BREEZE is considered on-time up to 5 minutes and 59 seconds behind schedule, per the contract.

\* SPRINTER is considered on-time up to 5 minutes behind schedule, per the contract.



## Upgrade Your Ride

Riders may have noticed recent upgrades to the SPRINTER cars as they zipped down the line. The entire fleet of SPRINTER cars have all recently had their exterior paint jobs refreshed. A majority of SPRINTER seats have been reupholstered for your comfort. Also, mechanical upgrades have all been completed, making the SPRINTER more reliable and getting passengers on their way more quickly. Additional refurbishing is still in process and riders can expect to see more improvements done by December. In an effort to keep the trains looking spiffy, riders are reminded to keep their feet off the seats and report graffiti at [GoNCTD.com/Contact](http://GoNCTD.com/Contact) or by calling 211. ■



## September is Rail Safety Month

At NCTD, rail safety is a priority throughout the year. However, NCTD's Board of Directors has reaffirmed its commitment to safety and saving lives by adopting a proclamation at its Board meeting recognizing September as Rail Safety Month.

NCTD will hold various outreach events and enlist our partners in the Sheriff's Department to educate the public about safety on the rails. Each year, hundreds of people are killed, and thousands injured on railroad tracks in the United States. Rail safety education is one of the best defenses in preventing these incidents and is a proactive step to help insure the safety of San Diego County residents and visitors. NCTD holds safety as its highest priority in the provision and operation of public transit services throughout its service area. Throughout September, look for our NCTD team to be on vehicles and at stations reminding pedestrians and motorists to exercise caution when near tracks, and to always **"See Tracks, Think Train."** ■



## Station Highlight

### Oceanside Transit Center



Hop on the SPRINTER for a quick ride to Oceanside Transit Center (OTC) where the beach, shopping, and events are at your fingertips. Enjoy weekly farmer's markets every Thursday just blocks away with live music, fresh flowers, and organic vegetables. Indulge your inner artist by visiting the Oceanside Museum of Art, the vintage Brooks Theatre, or the monthly Oceanside Art Walk. Nearby restaurants with farm to table local fare such as Masters Kitchen, The Miller's Table, and Flying Pig Kitchen are just steps from the transit center. If you're ready to head to downtown San Diego, Los Angeles, or out of town altogether, OTC also offers access to BREEZE, COASTER, Amtrak, Metrolink, and Greyhound. Grab your board and boogie on over to Oceanside Transit Center this summer! ■

