The South Bay Rapid transit service will utilize the new high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes along Interstate 805 (I-805) to connect the Otay Mesa Port of Entry and Downtown San Diego via eastern Chula Vista. The rapid and reliable transit system’s upscale, high-frequency service will have signal priority and use dedicated lanes to ensure faster travel times and fewer stops.

Direct connectors are roadways that link HOV lanes on one freeway to another. A direct connector at State Route 94 (SR 94) is planned as part of a separate project to help maintain consistent traffic speed within the HOV lanes.

HOV lanes have been constructed in the center of the freeway between East Palomar Street and the I-805/SR 94 interchange. The new lanes provide South County travelers with expanded transportation choices to bypass congestion, improving travel times for carpoolers, vanpoolers, motorcycles, and solo drivers in permitted clean-air vehicles.

In-line transit stations will be constructed at East H Street in Chula Vista and East Plaza Boulevard in National City. These stops will provide convenient access to the South Bay Rapid system and reduce travel times by eliminating the need for vehicles to exit the freeway. A transit station along State Route 94 and an in-line transit station along I-805 near the 47th Street Trolley Station are planned as part of other projects.

A new Direct Access Ramp (DAR) at East Palomar Street in Chula Vista opened to traffic in early 2017. A DAR allows transit, carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, and solo drivers in permitted clean-air vehicles to enter the carpool/High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes without needing to weave through the general purpose lanes from standard on- and off-ramps. This improves safety, reduces congestion, saves time, and increases travel time reliability for both carpool lanes and general freeway travelers.

Construction of future improvements will be scheduled pending funding.
TOUR STOP #1: OTAY MESA TRANSIT CENTER

At the southern end of its route, Rapid will terminate at the Otay Mesa Transit Center near the United States-Mexico Port of Entry. The Otay Mesa Transit Center will serve as a welcoming gateway between the two countries and provide travelers with amenities such as ticket vending machines, a concession stand, and real-time next vehicle arrival signs. The facility will include dedicated transit access for Rapid vehicles and local buses, which will improve traffic flow and facilitate the movement of goods and people at the border crossing and in the surrounding Otay Mesa community. Construction of the Otay Mesa Transit Center began in summer 2017.

NOTES:
Feel free to use the space below to take notes.

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TOUR STOP #2: GUIDEWAY BRIDGE
An elevated transit guideway bridge will be constructed over a portion of the transit corridor between Magdalena Avenue and Town Center Drive, traversing the South Bay Expressway. The bridge will allow Rapid vehicles to cross the South Bay Expressway while maintaining high-frequency, limited-stop service. Construction of the guideway bridge began in late 2016.

NOTES:
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TOUR STOP #3: HERITAGE STATION

Rapid Stations
A dozen Rapid stations are planned along the 26-mile route, including five in Downtown San Diego. Seven stations are being constructed in eastern Chula Vista and Otay Mesa as part of this project. These stations will include new modern shelters, level platforms for easier boarding, and upgraded amenities including real-time next vehicle arrival information, landscaping, and enhanced paving and architectural treatments. All stations will be located in the public right-of-way and have been designed to provide safe pedestrian access at intersections.

Transit Guideway
At the heart of the project is the dedicated transit guideway – a nearly six-mile-long transit-only lane being constructed in the median of East Palomar Street and along Eastlake Parkway in Chula Vista. Construction of the dedicated transit guideway is being performed in phases in order to minimize impacts to nearby residents, businesses, and motorists.

NOTES:
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TOUR HIGHLIGHT: DIRECT ACCESS RAMP (DAR)

A new Direct Access Ramp (DAR) at East Palomar Street in Chula Vista opened to traffic in early 2017. A DAR allows transit, carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, and solo drivers in permitted clean-air vehicles to enter the carpool/High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes without needing to weave through the general purpose lanes from standard on- and off-ramps. This improves safety, reduces congestion, saves time, and increases travel time reliability for both carpool lanes and general freeway travelers.

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

ROUTE MAP

NOTES:

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