

# DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO *RAPID* TRANSIT STATIONS FACT SHEET



The first *Rapid* line, serving the Interstate 15 (I-15) corridor between Escondido and Downtown San Diego, began service in June 2014. The next two *Rapid* lines – one connecting Rancho Bernardo to UC San Diego via Sorrento Mesa and the other connecting San Diego State University to Downtown San Diego via El Cajon and Park boulevards — began service in fall 2014. A fourth *Rapid* line connecting Otay Mesa to Downtown San Diego via eastern Chula Vista and Interstate I-805 (I-805) began construction in March 2016 and is expected to begin service in 2018.

### Project Purpose

A total of 11 uniquely branded transit stations have been built on or near the Broadway corridor in Downtown San Diego to serve *Rapid* lines that terminate at major destinations in the heart of the city. Modeled after successful systems in cities in the United States and around the world, *Rapid* offers transit riders faster, more frequent, and more reliable transit service between home, office, school, entertainment venues, and other key destinations. *Rapid* is different than local bus service and operates more like the Trolley; it serves riders wishing to travel longer distances with fewer stops.

In addition to the new stations, the streetscape has been upgraded at many stations with widened sidewalks for pedestrians, new or replaced trees, drainage upgrades, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access improvements.

### Project Need

In order to serve growing travel demand, the region needs to increase travel choices serving key destinations like Downtown

*(Continued on reverse)*



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**LEGEND**  
 Downtown Rapid Stations



San Diego. *Rapid* has been identified as an important component of our region's overall transportation strategy. The implementation of *Rapid* also supports efforts by the City of San Diego and the region to meet sustainability, climate action, and air quality goals.

*Rapid* serves as an attractive choice for people who would otherwise drive solo, as it provides a comfortable and convenient one-seat ride from residential communities to job centers. *Rapid* also supports the "reverse commute" of residents who live downtown and work in other parts of the region, such as Mid-City and the I-15 corridor.

### Project Features

**Uniquely Branded Service:** To differentiate from local bus service, *Rapid* vehicles and stations are branded with their own unique design. *Rapid* stations have a sleek, contemporary design that provides an open and transparent feel. The downtown stations include:

- » New shelters with *Rapid* branding
- » Pylon signs with digital displays announcing next vehicle arrival times
- » Security cameras for complete coverage in and around the stations
- » New sidewalks with pavers at the stations
- » Street resurfacing and drainage upgrades near the stations
- » New landscaping or replaced trees on the station blocks
- » New curb ramps at key intersections to improve access to the stations

### Improvements to Traffic Flow on

**Broadway:** The Downtown *Rapid* stations help improve the overall flow of traffic on Broadway. *Rapid* stations are located on separate blocks from local bus stations, reducing the possibility for "bus bunching" where multiple buses queue near one station and block through traffic. The addition of right-turn lane improvements at two intersections — First Avenue and Broadway and Kettner Boulevard and Broadway – assist with overall circulation of traffic on Broadway.

### Project Status

Construction of all 11 new *Rapid* stations, as well as the installation of visual messaging pylon signs, was completed in fall 2016.

### Project Costs

The project was funded by the local *TransNet* half-cent sales tax for transportation. The total cost was \$21 million, including environmental clearance, engineering, final design, construction, and support for the stations.

### More Information

For more information about the project, please visit [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/DowntownRapidStations](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/DowntownRapidStations) or contact us at [pio@sandag.org](mailto:pio@sandag.org) or (619) 699-1950.