

TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN VENTURA COUNTY

*“The [CMP] program shall contain...A travel demand element that promotes alternative transportation methods, including, but not limited to, carpools, vanpools, **transit**, bicycles, and park-and-ride lots; improvement in the balance between jobs and housing; and other strategies, including, but not limited to flexible work hours, telecommuting, and parking management programs.”*

California Government Code Section 65089.(b)(3)

5.1 Purpose of Chapter

This chapter provides a general overview of public transit systems and amenities available in Ventura County as of fall 2008. The information included in this chapter is intended solely for planning purposes and to promote transit as a method to relieve congestion and reduce vehicle miles traveled. To obtain current and detailed transit information including routes and schedules for the transit services described in this chapter, please refer to the individual transit company websites listed in Exhibit 26, pages 88 through 91.

Transit system statistics, performance measures and evaluation of transit systems are presented in Chapter 6. For information on transit-related improvements and strategies to relieve congestion and reduce vehicle miles traveled, refer to the *Tool Box* in Attachment 1.

5.2 Description of Transit Services

Bus and rail transportation services in Ventura County are provided by several transit operators, both public and private. Thirteen publicly-funded transit services operate in Ventura County, in addition to two intercity rail lines and one commuter rail line. A short description of public fixed-route bus and dial-a-ride services operating in Ventura County is provided in Exhibit 26. Amtrak and Metrolink rail services are described in section 5.2.3, pages 85 and 86.

5.2.1. Local Public Bus Service

Local public transit service (fixed-route & dial-a-ride) in Ventura County is provided by several transit operators managed mainly by local agencies. The cities of Camarillo, Moorpark, Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks manage their own municipal fixed-route and dial-a-ride services that operate mainly within city boundaries. Gold Coast Transit, a Joint Powers Agency created by the cities of Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura and the County of Ventura, provides fixed-route and paratransit service to western Ventura County.

In addition to the bus systems listed above, there are several smaller public bus systems that operate in Ventura County. They include the Ojai Trolley managed by the City of Ojai; the Beaches Dial-a-Ride managed by the City of Oxnard, the Oak Park Dial-a-Ride managed by the County, the Senior Mini-Bus managed by the City of Ventura, and the Camarillo Health Care District's non-emergency medical paratransit service available to residents in the greater Camarillo and Somis area. Local dial-a-ride service in Fillmore, Santa Paula and Piru is provided by the Ventura Intercity Service Transit Authority (VISTA) which is managed by VCTC. Exhibit 27, page 92, presents the approximate location of all public fixed-route bus routes in Ventura County. Exhibit 28, page 93, presents the approximate location of public dial-a-ride and paratransit service areas in the County originally developed by Judith Norman—Transportation Consultant as part of the VCTC Human Service Transportation and Transit Service Coordination Study in 2005.



5.2.2. Public Commuter Bus and Inter-county Bus Services

The VISTA fixed-route intercity bus service connects with all but one local transit operator in Ventura County, making it possible for people to travel by bus throughout the populated areas of the County. VISTA stops are limited to transit stations and transfer points, colleges, civic centers and major employment centers. VISTA does not directly connect to the Ojai Trolley in Ojai; however, Gold Coast Transit connects with VISTA at several locations and with the Ojai Trolley in Ojai. VISTA also provides service south to Warner Center in Los Angeles County and north to the cities of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara, and Goleta in Santa Barbara County. The VISTA fixed-route system utilizes the major freeway corridors to travel between stops including State Routes 23, 118, 126 and U.S. 101. The VISTA system routes are included in Exhibit 27, page 92.



Ojai Trolley



In addition, the Simi Valley Transit fixed-route service provides connections with Los Angeles County's Metro in the San Fernando Valley Community of Chatsworth.



The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) operates three routes that provide service to eastern Ventura County. Commuter Express route 422 provides service between Los Angeles and Thousand Oaks, Route 423 provides service between Los Angeles and



Thousand Oaks/Newbury Park; and Route 575 provides service between the Warner Center and Simi Valley.

Los Angeles County Metro Local Line 161 provides bus service between the Thousand Oaks Transit Center and Warner Center.

5.2.3. Commuter and Intercity Rail Services

Metrolink provides regional commuter rail service between Ventura County and Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles on weekdays. There are a total of 18 daily Metrolink trains that run between Ventura County and Union Station on the Coast Main Line. Metrolink owns the track from Union Station to Moorpark, and Union Pacific owns the rail line from Moorpark northward. Ten trains travel between the Moorpark rail station and Union Station, 6 trains between the Montalvo Metrolink Station (Ventura) and Union Station, and 2 trains between the Oxnard Transportation Center and Union Station. There are a total of five Metrolink station stops in Ventura County: Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard and the community of Montalvo in the City of Ventura. Metrolink does not provide service to the Ventura Amtrak station by the Ventura County Fairgrounds (Seaside Park). Weekend service is not available. Rail station locations are identified on the map in Exhibit 27, page 92. For additional information on Metrolink services, routes and schedules, refer to www.metrolinktrains.com.

There are two separate Amtrak services in Ventura County: the Pacific Surfliner and the Coast Starlight. The Amtrak Pacific Surfliner offers intercity service between San Diego and San Luis Obispo, with stops at five rail stations in Ventura County: Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard and Ventura (at the Seaside Park station, not Montalvo). There are 10 daily Pacific Surfliner trips through Ventura County seven days a week: 6 between Los Angeles and Goleta, and 4 between Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo. Amtrak also provides bus connections at train stations to other destinations. For additional information on all Amtrak services, routes and schedules, refer to <http://tickets.amtrak.com>

The Amtrak Coast Starlight intercity rail line provides two daily trips between Los Angeles and Seattle in Washington State, one north and one south. The Coast Starlight makes only two stops in Ventura County: the Simi Valley rail station and the Oxnard Transportation Center. Refer to <http://tickets.amtrak.com> for additional information.

Both Amtrak services operate on the same rail line used by Metrolink, the Coast Main Line. In addition to passenger rail service, Union Pacific operates an average of 13 freight trains on the Coast Main Line each day.

There is no passenger service currently operating on the two short line railroads that exist in Ventura County: the Santa Paula Branch line and the Ventura County Railway. The Santa Paula Branch Rail line, publicly owned and managed by VCTC, extends from the Coast Main Line in the community of Montalvo in the City of Ventura through the Santa Clarita River communities

of Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. The short line is used minimally by Union Pacific for freight service into Santa Paula and by the Fillmore & Western Railway Company for tourist train service between Santa Paula and Piru. The Ventura County Railway operates between the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme, and is operated by the Rail America Corporation in Port Hueneme for freight service.

5.2.4. Private Providers

There are several private companies that provide transportation within and outside of Ventura County. These companies include “airport” shuttles, limousine, taxi cab and bus charter transportation services. A list of private transportation providers operating in Ventura County is available on the VCTC website at www.goventura.org. In addition, Greyhound, the largest provider of intercity bus transportation, offers bus service from the Oxnard Greyhound station in Oxnard to more than 2,300 destinations with 13,000 daily departures across North America. For additional information on Greyhound services go to www.greyhound.com. Transportes Intercalifornias provides bus service from Oxnard to Tijuana and Mexicali in Mexico, and to specific locations throughout California. For additional information on services provided by Transportes Intercalifornias go to www.intercalifornias.com (information in Spanish).

5.3 Description of Transit Amenities

Several transit amenities have been implemented county-wide that compliment and promote the use of the transit services summarized in this chapter. These amenities are summarized below.

Dial-A-Route Transit Information Center & Transit Router

VCTC operates a toll free information line (1-800-438-1112) where callers can obtain information in both English and Spanish from knowledgeable staff regarding transit services, transit routing and amenities described in this chapter. The Dial-A-Route call-in center is open weekdays from 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM. In addition to the call-in center, the VCTC website (www.goventura.org) provides a point-to-point itinerary planner that allows users to obtain directions to their destinations including information on departure times, transfers, fares, walking directions to bus stops, and services for special needs such as wheelchairs and bikes. The web-based transit router is available 24-hours a day in both English and Spanish, and covers over 100 transit operators throughout Southern California.

NextBus

All fixed-route public transit systems, except for the Ojai Trolley, have implemented a county-wide real-time bus location and arrival prediction system called “NextBus”. The NextBus system tracks the location of each bus through the use of Global Positioning Satellites (GPS). Each bus is fitted with a satellite tracking system. Bus location

information is relayed through cellular communications to the internet through user friendly maps and to electronic message signs at heavily used bus stops. The system predicts the expected arrival times of each vehicle at all bus stops, and displays the actual location of buses on street maps. This allows transit users to check the internet for the location of buses and predicted arrival times before leaving for the bus stop. The NextBus system is available through the VCTC website at www.goventura.org.

Smart Card

The “Go Ventura” Smart Card is an electronic fare card that allows seamless travel throughout the County using a single card. The Smart Card operates as either a monthly pass or as an electronic-purse (“e-purse”), containing a cash value on the card. This eliminates the need to carry exact change to ride the bus. Passengers with Smart Cards enter the bus and simply tap their Smart Card on the card reader located near the farebox. The system tells the driver whether monthly cards are valid or deducts the appropriate fare from the e-purse electronically. The system will also display to the rider the current cash balance on their Smart Card and warn them when the amount dips below a preset threshold. In addition to tracking fare-related transactions, the Smart Card system tracks all passengers boarding and alighting every bus using an automatic passenger counting device. The data generated is used for planning purposes including compliance with federal transit reporting requirements.

In addition, the *Guaranteed Ride Home Program* described in Chapter 4 can be utilized by transit users registered with the program, which provides a free ride home (taxi or car rental) in the event of an emergency, childcare problem, or unanticipated overtime.

Exhibit 26 Public Transit Systems Operating in Ventura County (Fixed-Route Bus and Dial-A-Ride Services)				
TRANSIT SYSTEM	Fixed-Route Bus Service		Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Services	
Camarillo Area Transit	One fixed route bus travels throughout the City. Schedules and maps available at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us	Monday - Friday: 8:00am-4:30pm Saturday: Use Dial-A-Ride Sunday: no service \$1.00 Adults & Students \$0.50 Seniors/Disabled/Medicare Free for Leisure Village residents	Curb-to-curb transit service available to the general public. Vehicle will travel anywhere within the Camarillo city limits. For information and reservations call 805-988-4228; Monday thru Friday: 7:30 am to 5:30 pm; Saturday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Additional information at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us	Monday - Friday: 7:30am -9:00pm Saturday: 8:00am-4:00pm Sunday: no service \$2.00 Adults and Youth \$1.50 Seniors & Disabled
Care-A-Van (Camarillo Health Care District)	Fixed-route service not provided	Fixed-route service not provided	Door-to-door, non-emergency, medical paratransit service from Camarillo throughout Ventura County and to Kaiser Hospital in Woodland Hills. Available to the general public. All rides must originate within District sphere of influence which includes the Greater Camarillo Area, Somis, and parts of Las Posas and Santa Rosa Valleys. For reservations call 805-388-2529, Monday thru Friday, 8:00am to 4:20pm. Call 2 to 3 days in advance. Additional info. at www.camhealth.com	Monday - Friday: 8:20am-4:00pm \$6.00 - \$20.00 depending on destination; \$3.00-\$13.00 ADA service depending on destination; Donation to Senior Nutrition Meal Sites
Gold Coast Transit	17 scheduled fixed bus routes with a fleet of 48 large transit buses serve the cities of Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and Ventura and the county unincorporated area between them. Schedules and maps available at www.goldcoasttransit.org	Hours of operation depend on route. \$1.25 Adult/Youth \$0.60 Senior/ Medicare/Disabled Free for 75 + (restricted hours) & Children under 45" tall & transfers	ACCESS provides curb-to-curb ADA service for people with disabilities and senior citizens who cannot use the fixed-route bus system. For reservations/ cancellations call toll free 1-800-448-6133 daily between 8:00am - 5:00pm. Reservations are taken the day prior to travel. Additional information available at www.goldcoasttransit.org	Monday - Friday: 5:00am-10:00pm Saturday: 5:30am-9:00pm Sunday: 6:00am-8:30pm \$2.50 ADA/Senior (one-way) Free for Senior Nutrition Program

Chapter 5: Transit

2009 Ventura County Congestion Management Program

Adopted July 10, 2009

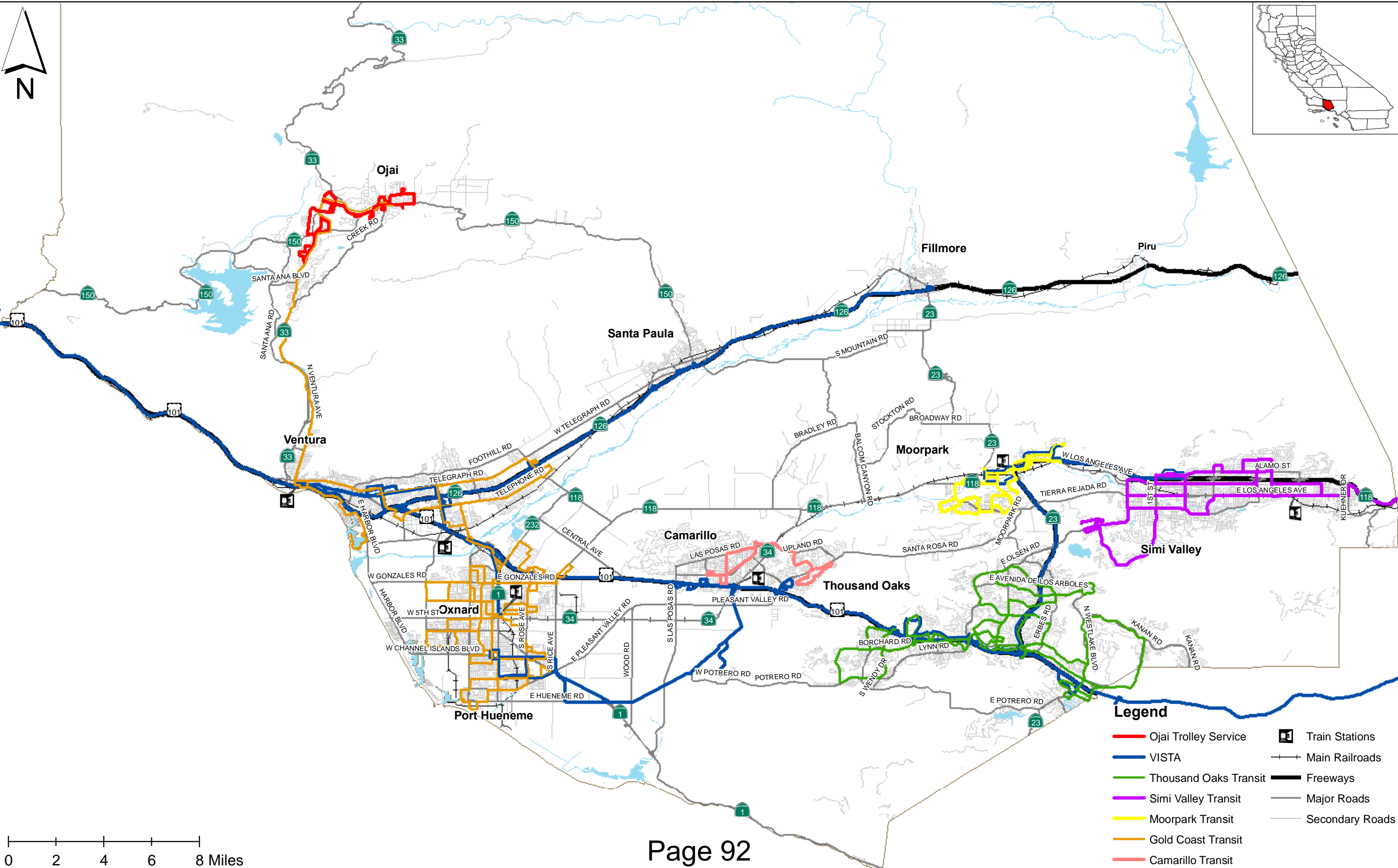
Exhibit 26 Public Transit Systems Operating in Ventura County (Fixed-Route Bus and Dial-A-Ride Services)				
TRANSIT SYSTEM	Fixed-Route Bus Service		Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Services	
Help of Ojai	Fixed-route service not provided	Fixed-route service not provided	A volunteer organization providing transportation services to seniors and the disabled. Appointments should be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance. Private car transportation also available by appointment for needs outside the city. For information & scheduling call 805-646-0144 or 805-646-7787. Additional information at www.helpofojai.org	Monday - Sunday: 8:00am-4:00pm
Moorpark City Transit	There are two fixed routes. Each route consists of a one-way loop of approximately sixteen miles, with about forty stops. Route 1 circulates in a counter-clockwise loop around the City and Route 2 circulates in a clockwise loop around the City. Schedules and maps available at www.ci.moorpark.ca.us	Route 1: Monday -Friday: 6:00am - 5:20pm Route 2: Monday -Friday: 6:40am - 6:00pm \$1.00 Students/Adults \$0.50 Senior/Disabled/handicapped Free for children	Moorpark Senior Dial-A-Ride: Curb-to-curb service offered to residents age 62 and older. Call 805-375-5467 at least 2 hours in advance or at least 24 hours with wheelchair or a scooter. Moorpark Disabled Paratransit: Curb-to-curb service throughout Moorpark, Thousand Oaks and Camarillo for disabled riders regardless of age. For reservations call 805-375-5467. Additional information available at www.ci.moorpark.ca.us	Moorpark Senior Dial-A-Ride: Monday -Friday: 6:00am-6:00pm \$1.50 each way Moorpark Disabled Paratransit: Monday -Friday: 6:00am-6:00pm \$3.00 for trips to Thousand Oaks/ Westlake and Simi Valley \$4.50 for trips to Camarillo and Oak Park
Oak Park Dial-A-Ride	Fixed-route service not provided	Fixed-route service not provided	Curb-to-curb service available to the general public within Agoura Hills and Oak Park, and to the Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center in Calabasas. In addition, disabled persons or persons 56 years of age and older can travel to limited areas in Westlake Village & Thousand Oaks. Not for student use. Call 818-597-0087.	Monday -Friday: 7:00am-7:00pm Saturday: 9:00am-4:00pm Sunday: No Service \$1.50 per ride

Exhibit 26 Public Transit Systems Operating in Ventura County (Fixed-Route Bus and Dial-A-Ride Services)				
TRANSIT SYSTEM	Fixed-Route Bus Service		Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Services	
Oxnard Harbors & Beaches Dial-A-Ride	Fixed-route service not provided	Fixed-route service not provided	General public Dial-A-Ride service to beaches, Channel Islands Harbor, Oxnard Airport, and the Oxnard Transportation Center. For reservations call 805-207-0699.	Monday -Friday: 7:00am -12:00pm & 1:00pm - 6:00pm Saturday: 9:00am - 5:00pm No service Sunday \$2.00 Adults \$1.50 Seniors (65+)/Disabled Children 45" tall & under are free
Ojai Trolley	Two fixed-routes with daily service to Ojai, Meiners Oaks and Mira Monte. Schedules and maps available at www.ojaitrolley.com	Monday - Friday: 7:15am - 5:40pm Saturday & Sunday: 9:10am - 4:53pm \$0.50 General Fare \$0.25 Seniors \$0.25 children under 5 Free for Infants and ADA qualified passengers	Dial-A-Ride service not provided.	Dial-A-Ride service not provided
Simi Valley Transit	Serves Simi Valley with four regular bus routes, one of which connects with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) in Chatsworth. Schedules and maps available at www.simivalley.org	Monday -Saturday: 5:00am -8:00pm \$1.25 Adult/Student \$0.50 Senior/Disabled/Medicare Free for City transfers & 1 child 5yrs & under per paying adult.	Curb-to-curb ADA/Paratransit Dial-A-Ride service to individuals with special needs and to seniors age 60 and over. Travels within the City of Simi Valley. For information and reservations call 805-583-6464.	Monday -Saturday: 5:00am - 8:00pm \$1.50/one-way trip ADA-certified passengers Suggested donation of \$1.50/one-way trip Non ADA-certified passengers
Thousand Oaks Transit	Operates four regular bus routes. TOT serves Newbury Park, Thousand Oaks, and the Westlake area. Schedules and maps available at www.toaks.org	Monday -Friday: 6:00am – 7:00pm \$1.00 Adult \$0.75 Student Free for Child under 5 \$0.50 Seniors/Disabled \$0.25 Senior/Disabled (Limited Income); \$0.15 Transfers	General purpose and ADA services are available within the Thousand Oaks City boundary and the County Unincorporated areas of Ventu Park, Rolling Oaks, Lynn Ranch and Newbury Park. Reservations may be made by calling 805-375-5467 and may be made-up no later than one hour prior to an appointment.	Monday -Friday: 7:30am - 5:30pm General Purpose DAR; 6:00am-7:00pm ADA Saturday: 9:00am - 5:00pm Sunday: 8:00am - 4:30pm \$1.50 each way Passengers traveling on weekends to and from the same location receive a half price fare.

Exhibit 26 Public Transit Systems Operating in Ventura County (Fixed-Route Bus and Dial-A-Ride Services)				
TRANSIT SYSTEM	Fixed-Route Bus Service		Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Services	
VISTA	Operates seven regular inter-city bus routes. Connects with all other fixed-route transit systems except the Ojai Trolley. Schedules and maps available at www.goventura.org	Hours of operation depend on route. \$1.00 Adult \$0.50 Senior Free for Child Under 5 CONEJO CONNECTION & COASTAL EXPRESS Routes: \$2.00 Adult \$1.00 Senior Free for Child Under 5	Operates two general public dial-a-ride services: Fillmore/Piru Dial-A-Ride and Santa Paula Dial-A-Ride. For reservations call: 805-524-2319 (Fillmore/Piru) or 805- 933-2267 (Santa Paula).	Fillmore Dial-A-Ride: Monday -Friday: 6:00am - 8:00pm Saturday-Sunday: 7:00am-6:00pm Santa Paula Dial-A-Ride: Monday -Friday: 6:00am - 7:30pm Saturday-Sunday: 8:00am-5:30pm \$1.50 Adult \$0.75 Senior Free for Child Under 5
LA DOT	Commuter Express route 422 provides service from LA to Hollywood, San Fernando Valley, Agoura Hills, and Thousand Oaks. Commuter Express route 423 provides service from LA to Encino Park & Ride, Calabasas, Thousand Oaks, and Newbury Park. Commuter Express route 575 provides service from the Warner Center to Simi Valley. Schedules and maps available at www.ladotttransit.com	Commuter Express routes 422, 423, & 575 operate Monday - Friday. No service on Saturdays & Sundays. Fares dependent on route and travel distance. ½ price for Seniors/Disabled Children 4 & under are Free	DAR service not provided	DAR service not provided
LACMTA (LA Metro)	Line 161 provides local bus service from the Thousand Oaks Transportation Center to Westlake, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Warner Center. Schedules and maps available at www.metro.net/riding_metro/ride_rs_guide/planning_trip.htm	\$1.25 Regular Fare \$0.55 Senior/Disabled/Medicare \$0.25 Seniors Age 62+/Disabled Off-Peak Base Fare Weekdays 9am -3pm & 7pm- 5am; All day on weekends and Federal holidays	DAR service not provided in Ventura County	DAR service not provided in Ventura County

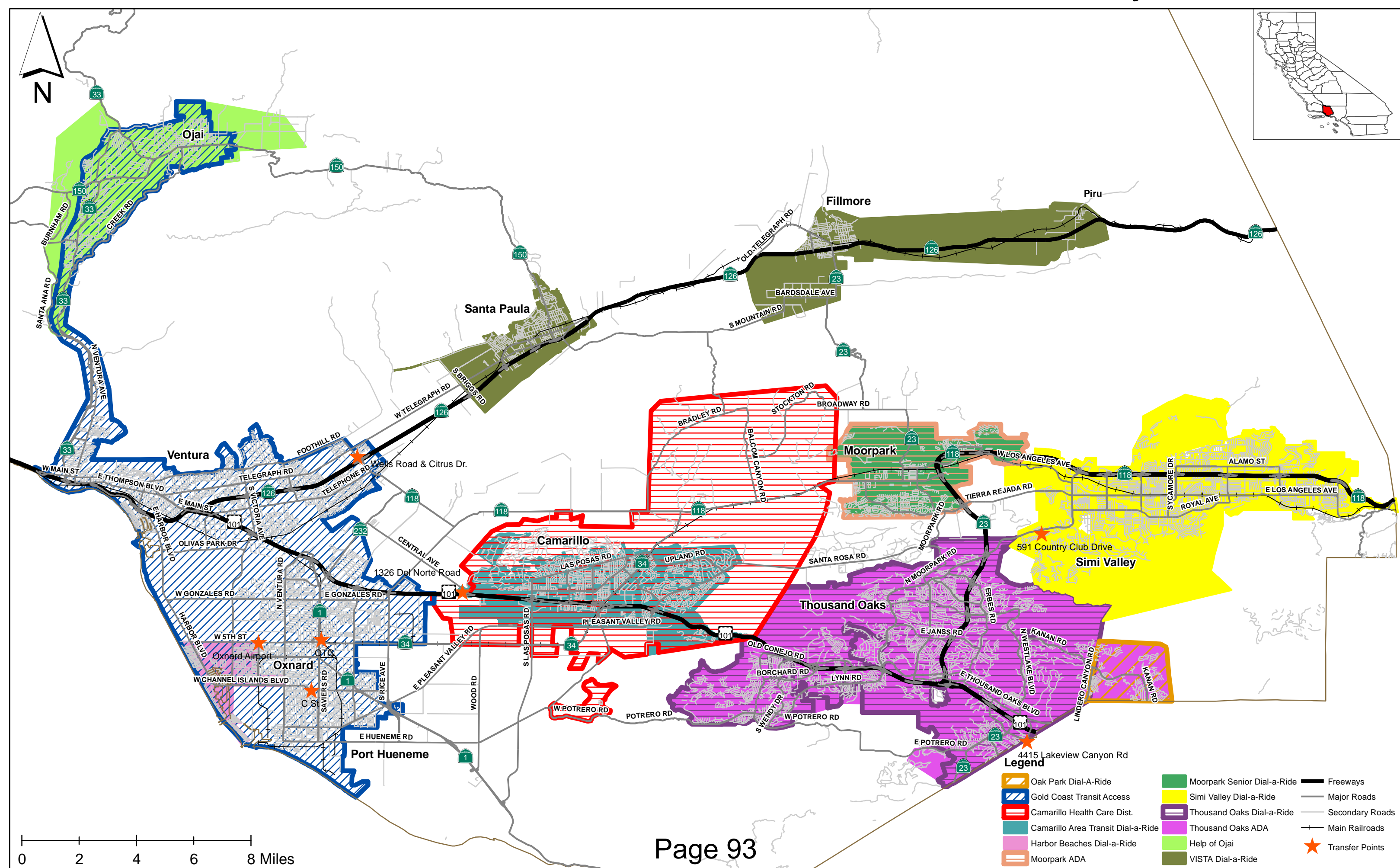
Ventura County Fixed-Route Transit Map

Exhibit #2I



Dial-A-Ride & Paratransit Provider Service Areas In Ventura County

Exhibit #21



Chapter 5: Transit

2009 Ventura County Congestion Management Program

Adopted July 10, 2009
