# CHAPTER 5 CAPITAL ASSETS

This chapter describes the capital assets of GCTD, including revenue and nonrevenue vehicles, operations facilities, passenger facilities and other assets.

## VEHICLE REVENUE FLEET

GCTD operates a fleet of 56 fixed-route (35' and 40') buses, all using clean burning CNG. During peak travel periods, 47 of its 56 buses are dispatched for service. This allocation allows GCTD to maintain a spare ratio of 20 percent, in accordance with the requirements of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 90301A. The fleet inventory is provided in Appendix IV.



GCTD is required to maintain a useful life of at least 12 years for fixed-route buses, based on FTA Circular

D- Useful Life Policy. The maintenance program that enables GCTD to meet and support this requirement is also described in Appendix IV.

GCTD GO ACCESS operates a fleet of 20 cutaway buses and four smaller MV-1 vans, all using clean burning CNG. These vehicles are maintained by the GO ACCESS operator, MV Transportation.

# NONREVENUE VEHICLES AND OTHER ASSETS

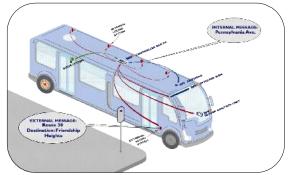
**Staff, Relief Cars and Operational Vehicles -** GCTD maintains a fleet of 21 non-revenue vehicles that are required to support ongoing operations. These include administration, supervisory and relief vehicles. GCTD has a total of 15 Honda Civics, all powered by CNG. GCTD also has three vans, two for operations supervisors and one for general purpose use, and three pick-up trucks for maintenance purposes. In addition, GCTD's Maintenance Department also has a propane powered fork lift for maintenance and yard tasks.

**CNG Fueling Station -** In January 1993 the Board of Directors selected CNG as the preferred fuel for replacement and expansion vehicles, beginning with the replacement vehicles procured in FY 1993-94. Funding commitments toward the purchase of CNG vehicles and support equipment included FTA Section 9 funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, the Ventura County Clean Air Fund and funds from The Gas Company (Southern California Gas). As a result of these funding commitments, GCTD began operating its own CNG fueling station.

**On-Board Technology Assets -** Over the last several years, GCTD has implemented on-board Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) components. While GCTD does not yet have a

complete ITS in place, the following major onboard technologies are utilized on GCTD's vehicles.

- Automatic Vehicle Location (NextBus provided by VCTC)
- Camera system (Seon)
- Validating fareboxes (GFI Odyssey)
- Automatic Passenger Counters (UTA)



Future technologies planned include an Automated Stop Annunciation system.

# **EXISTING FACILITY**

GCTD's headquarters are currently located in the District-owned facility located at 301 East Third Street in Oxnard and bordered on two sides by residential neighborhoods. The existing GCTD operations and maintenance facility houses administration, operations and fleet maintenance buildings, fuel and wash areas, and bus and employee parking. The facility was constructed in 1980 and was originally designed and built for up to 35 30-to-35-foot buses. GCTD currently owns 56 35-foot and 40-foot fixed-route buses that are stored within the facility. GCTD's 24 paratransit vehicles are housed in a separate facility operated by MV Transportation; however, all paratransit vehicles are refueled at the GCTD facility.

Staff parking overflows daily into the fleet parking areas as the site is filled to full capacity. Onstreet parking surrounding the site is restricted and frequently unavailable for most of the workday. The site circulation and parking issues are further compounded now that GCTD is operating mostly 40-foot buses. GCTD recently added office trailers in the parking lot to house staff in an effort to relieve overcrowded office conditions. In addition, when GCTD transitioned from diesel to CNG fuel for its fleet, site space was lost to accommodate the CNG station.

According to a federally funded planning study that examined GCTD's facility space needs (Maintenance Design Group, September 2008), the recommended total site requirement for GCTD's current fixed-route operation is approximately 6.5 acres. In comparison, the total size of the existing facility is only 2.94 acres. Future space needs to accommodate up to 125 buses is estimated to be 15 acres.



Because the existing operations and maintenance facility is already over capacity, it is preventing GCTD from procuring more buses and expanding transit service. Given existing overcrowded conditions, planned transit service expansions cannot occur until a new facility is constructed.

## **NEW ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS FACILITY**

GCTD is proceeding with development of a new LEED certified facility at 1901 Auto Center Drive in Oxnard.

Site acquisition of the property is complete and GCTD has received CEQA and NEPA clearance. The new facility will provide sufficient capacity to meet GCTD's projected service expansion goals and improved operating efficiencies.

This new facility will house the District's administrative office and fixed-route operation and maintenance facility. With this new facility, GCTD has room to expand and provide more service to meet the demands of the community. Renderings of the new facility are shown below. Additional information about the new facility can be found at www.goldcoasttransit.org/news/newfacility.



## **PASSENGER FACILITIES**

Passenger facilities such as transit centers, bus stops and the Customer Service Center are an essential part of a successful transit system. They provide the public with a point of entry into the transit system and set the stage for a positive experience with public transit. In the GCTD service area, all passenger facilities are owned and maintained by the District's member agencies. However, GCTD provides a portion of the annual TDA allocation to each member to fund the maintenance of passenger facilities.

#### **BUS STOPS**

The first interaction between the passenger and the transit system is the bus stop. Passenger accessibility, safety and security needs, as well as operational needs are all considered in the location and placement of bus stops. Transit users, including students, commuters, shoppers, and the elderly and disabled, can access the community through the extensive network of 722 bus stops in GCTD's system.

The amenities and land where these bus stops are located are owned by the jurisdiction being served. Many of these stops have been in place since GCTD's inception. To accommodate changes to these stops and incorporate new stops into its



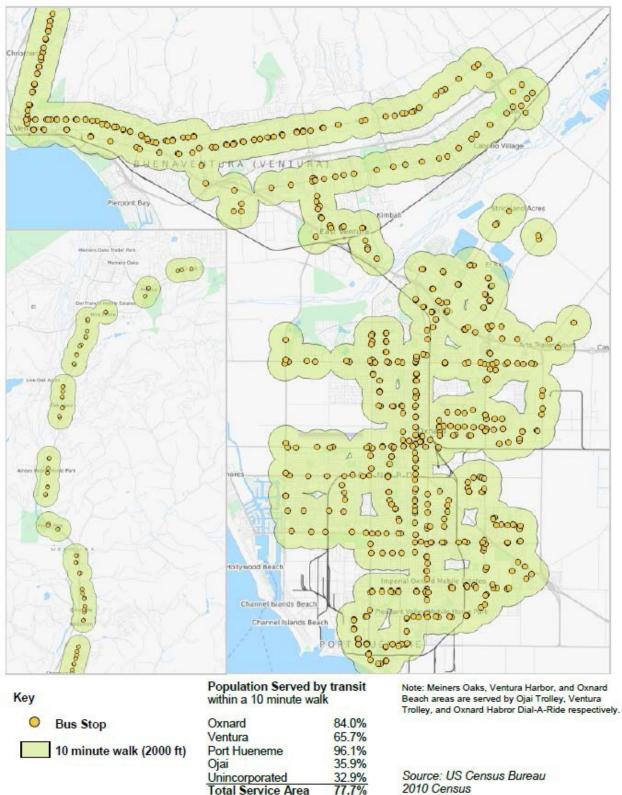
service area, GCTD and its member agencies have developed *Bus Stop Guidelines* for providing physical design specifications recommended for incorporation into local comprehensive plan policies, land use ordinances, pedestrian plans, and street design requirements. These guidelines take into consideration the operational needs of GCTD, passenger accessibility, the requirements of the ADA, other federal and state accessibility mandates and public safety.

The purpose of these guidelines is to promote consistency in bus stop placement and design, encourage member agencies and developers to design clean and attractive bus stops that meet the operational requirements of GCTD's fleet, and encourage members of the community to use public transit through the provision of safe, comfortable, convenient, and consistent bus stops. The *Bus Stop Guidelines* can be found on GCTD's website at <u>www.goldcoasttransit.org</u>.

Looking forward, GCTD plans to update the bus stop signs with the new logo and colors, making them more visible for passengers and operators. Staff also intends to work on creating a bus stop improvement plan and develop a memorandum of understanding with our member agencies, who own the actual stops. Possible bus stop opportunities in the future are solar lighting and motion sensor or pedestrian actuated lighting at stops.

The map on the following page shows that a significant percentage of the population live within a convenient ten minute walk of a bus stop.





## **TRANSIT CENTERS**

The following are facilities that provide connectivity between different parts of the GCTD service area and the wide range of population centers within the GCTD service area.

#### Oxnard Transit Center (OTC) – Downtown Oxnard



The OTC serves as a major multimodal transfer facility located on Fourth Street in Downtown Oxnard. The facility was built in 1986 and serves as a terminus for routes 1A, 1B, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, 8, 18, 19, 20 and the VCTC Intercity Conejo Connection route. It is a major transfer point for buses traveling to and from Ventura, south

Oxnard and Port Hueneme. The GCTD Customer Service Center is also located in the OTC terminal building.

#### Ventura Transit Center (VTC) – Pacific View Mall

The VTC is located adjacent to the Pacific View Mall and is served by routes 6, 10, 11, 16 and 21 as well as the VCTC Intercity Coastal Express, Highway 101 and Highway 126 routes. It was built in 2002 and is the main transfer point for buses traveling to and from Oxnard, Ojai, west Ventura and east Ventura. Unlike the OTC, this facility does not currently have access to GCTD



customer service assistants and the nearest location to buy passes is over a mile away, but there is potential for a customer service center or ticket vending machine here in the future.

#### C Street Transfer Center (CTC) – Centerpoint Mall



The CTC provides on-street transfers for buses traveling to South Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura, the VTC and the OTC. It serves routes 1A, 1B, 3, 7, 8, 9, and 21 as well as VCTC Intercity CSUCI– Oxnard route. The CTC has multiple stops in both directions on C Street, directly adjacent to retail shops and medical facilities. Similar to the VTC, this facility does not have access to GCTD customer service assistants.

### Wells Center – East Ventura

Wells Center is a small transfer location in east Ventura that serves as a transfer point between routes 10, 11 and 22 as well as the VCTC Intercity Highway 126 route. These routes provide service to midtown Ventura and north Oxnard. As part of the SRTP outreach process, improvements to the Wells Center were requested (please see Appendix II for more details).

## CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER (CSC)

The CSC is located in the north end of the Oxnard Transit Center. Its purpose is to provide assistance to the public regarding bus routes, service, purchasing bus passes, and the myriad of questions transit users have as they navigate public transit. The CSC is currently staffed with two bi-lingual customer service assistants and is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.



The current design of the CSC limits its operating efficiency. To keep up with its high standard for customer service, GCTD is upgrading the CSC to increase functionality and safety. When complete, the project will include three new sales windows, replacement of obsolete electronic systems, reorganized interior space, improved security systems and reconstruction of the interior restroom to meet ADA standards. The design of this upgrade is complete and construction is expected to be completed in late 2015.