

COASTER QUICK FACTS



By any measure, NCTD's COASTER train has added a valuable asset to San Diego commuters. Its rapid acceptance from the start provided a solid foundation for growth that continues into the 21st Century. Here are a few quick facts about this extraordinary transit treasure.

- The COASTER's inaugural run occurred on February 27, 1995. By its 15th anniversary on February 27, 2010 more than 19 million passengers had climbed on board.
- The COASTER's initial schedule included five weekday round trips. Today, the train completes 11 round trips daily. In the summer, extra trains run during the late night hours on Fridays and Saturdays from downtown San Diego.
- In 1995, each train included three cars. Now most trains feature five.
- In its first year, the passenger count was 514,447. By 2005, it's 10th anniversary, the count had risen to 1.4 million and reached 1.5 million in 2009.
- More than 5,000 people board every weekday and another 1,200 on Saturday.
- While the COASTER is a young 15, it travels on established rails that have been in use for more than 100 years. It shares the tracks with Amtrak's Surfliner and freight trains from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.
- The COASTER has personality! It's a sports fan, carrying hundreds to Padres games. It's kid-friendly, running a special "Santa Train" every holiday season. It accommodates bikers and surfers, equipment and all.
- Stories abound of regular passengers establishing small communities, becoming friends and even sharing a glass of wine onboard.



- During peak hours, the COASTER has often carried the equivalent of a freeway lane, which has a capacity of about 1,200 people per hour.
- The COASTER covers 42 miles of track in less than 60 minutes, stopping at eight stations in five cities.
- COASTER rolling stock includes seven locomotives and 28 bi-level passenger coaches that each hold approximately 135 seats.

- The trip from Oceanside to San Diego is considered one of the most scenic rail routes in the entire country, crossing lagoons, skirting the ocean and passing through beautiful open space corridors in its journey.
- The COASTER provides a gateway to other areas of the county, connecting to BREEZE bus service and SPRINTER rail service along the Oceanside-Escondido corridor.
- Customers can also connect to the COASTER's twin, Metrolink, at Oceanside to travel to Orange County and Los Angeles. Amtrak also shares the Oceanside, Solana Beach and San Diego (Santa Fe Depot) stations.
- North County Transit District has continued to invest to improve the COASTER experience and has contributed more than \$32 million in capital rail improvements over the past five years.

