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Premium bus service starts this month, three trips in morning, and three trips in evening

San Diego -- The Metropolitan Transit System announced today that the new Premium Express Bus Route 880 will start March 30, serving the 4S Ranch and Rancho Bernardo communities with limited stop service to Sorrento Valley and Golden Triangle. The Metropolitan Transit System's Premium Express Bus Service is a commuter service with limited stops in premium coach buses.

Starting at the 4S Commons Town Center, Express Route 880, will stop at the Rancho Bernardo Transit Station and then go directly to Mira Mesa via the Interstate 15 Expressway. The bus will exit I-15 at Mira Mesa Boulevard and go to Sorrento Valley, serving the employment centers there. The service will end at the UTC Transit Center. The bus service will have three morning rush hour trips and three trips in the evening.

"This opens up new markets to Premium Express bus services," said MTS Paul Jablonski, MTS Chief Executive Officer. "Linking up Inland North communities with the two large employment centers near the coast has been one of our long-term goals. Thanks to developer mitigation funds, we are able to begin this vital connection this year."

Express Route 880 is subsidized into 2012 with developer mitigation fees from 4S Ranch. It is the start of a long-term plan to bring bus rapid transit service to the Interstate 15 corridor.

The bus service is \$5 per ride, \$11 for a day pass (good for transfers to most other MTS services) or \$90 per month (including unlimited rides on most MTS services). Reduced rates are available to youth (18 and under) for \$45 and seniors (over 60) for \$22.50. About 1,500 riders currently take MTS' five express routes every weekday.

The San Diego Metropolitan Transit System transports millions of San Diegans every year with over 90 bus routes and 53 miles of rail. For further information on fares, routes, and schedules, or to plan a trip, visit www.sdmts.com or contact 511.

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