Local 4

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Metro Center dedicated

The Metro Center opened its gleaming new house Friday to a crowd of dignitaries and jubilant public transit users. The new facility is the culmination of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District's five-year plan of improvements.

The center cost \$3,145,000 including land and the cost of extending the Pacific Garden Mall. The facility, which has been characterized as being either art deco or art moderne in styling, provides for four lanes of parked buses and four lanes of moving buses. The interior of the main building is reserved for office space upstairs, and for transit business downstairs. A variety of food and beverage shops will be located in the center, which will have its own security force, three restroom areas and an information booth.

The district offered free county-wide bus service Friday in honor of the new center. The dedication ceremony featured Senator Henry Mello, Assemblyman Sam Farr, Caltrans chief Lee Deter and local public officials.

