

Fleet of new buses for Metro

Michael Doern of Santa Cruz demonstrates the easy load handicap-access ramp on the new 35-foot, 30-seat New Flyer passenger bus that has no steps and a quick-folding ramp that can be operated manually or mechanically.

According to Michael Mawson, safety and training coordinator for Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District, the district eventually put 30 of the new buses into operation around the county.

"Half our fleet will be replaced with these new buses," Mawson said. "I think most of our customers will like to ride in new, clean, modern buses such as these." Mawson said the Transit District will get 18 of the 35-foot buses within a month and 12 40-foot buses which have 39 seats in July.

Each bus costs about \$265,000. Each is quipped with computerized broad letter destination signs, tall wide-view windows, and a front entrance with no stairs.

