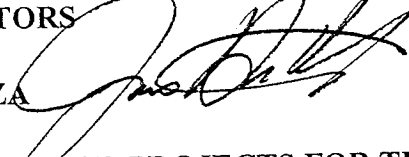




March 1, 2000

Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2952

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: JAMES L. de la LOZA 
SUBJECT: ABBREVIATED CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR THE 2000
STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Today, the MTA staff announced an abbreviated Call for Projects for the 2000 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to the Technical Advisory Committee and all eligible project sponsors. Project sponsors will be requested to submit applications for funding of eligible projects to the MTA by *Friday, March 31, 2000*.

TRANSPORTATION 2000

With his State of the State message of last month, Governor Gray Davis launched his Transportation 2000 Initiative to provide much-needed and much more timely state funding for transportation improvements statewide. The Transportation 2000 Program is included in the Governor's 2001 State Budget. At the Corridor Workshop on February 4, 2000, MTA staff presented a schedule for the next steps needed to meet the Governor's Transportation 2000 challenge.

2000 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP)

Responding to Governor Davis' Transportation 2000 program, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) may soon be considering a 2000 STIP Fund Estimate, which is expected to be released in the coming months. This Fund Estimate may provide a significant level of new capital funding for the years 2000-2004. To meet the statutory deadline, the CTC must adopt the 2000 STIP by July 2000. Regional transportation planning agencies statewide, including the MTA, will be expected to submit their individual county programs to the CTC by May 2000. The MTA staff is announcing an abbreviated 2000 STIP process to meet the State's expedited deadlines.

The MTA Board of Directors will receive a staff recommendation regarding the programming of these transportation revenues in May, 2000. Please contact me at (213) 922-3071 if you have any questions.



February 28, 2000

Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2932

(213) 922-2000

MEMO TO: COG DIRECTORS, CITY MANAGERS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS, AND TRANSIT MANAGERS

**FROM: JAMES L. de la LOZA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT**

**SUBJECT: ABBREVIATED CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR THE 2000
STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is conducting an abbreviated Call for Projects for the 2000 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Cities and the County of Los Angeles are requested to submit applications for funding of eligible projects to the MTA *by Friday, March 31, 2000*. The application materials can be found in Attachments 1 and 2 to this memo. *Some addressee's will only receive the attachments if requested. If it is not attached, the applications can be found on the internet at:*

<http://www.mta.net/corporate/depts/RTPD/home.htm>

or by calling Carol Martin at (213) 922-3048.

BACKGROUND

With his State of the State message of last month, Governor Gray Davis launched his Transportation 2000 Initiative to provide much-needed and much more timely state funding for transportation improvements statewide. The Transportation 2000 Program is included in the Governor's 2001 State Budget.

Responding to Governor Davis' Transportation 2000 program, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) may now be considering a 2000 STIP Fund Estimate, which is expected to be released in the coming months. This Fund Estimate may provide a significant level of new capital funding for the years 2000-2004. To meet the statutory deadline, the CTC must adopt the 2000 STIP by July 2000. Regional transportation planning agencies statewide will be expected to submit their individual county programs to the CTC by May 2000.

The Democratic and Republican leaders of the California Legislature have informed the Governor of their opposition to some of the proposed approaches that fund the accelerated STIP funds. Due to these differences, it is unknown how much funding the CTC will make available. The differences will not affect the availability of STIP project development funds previously authorized by the Legislature (AB 1012). As a result, the MTA will be funding project development work such as environmental

clearances and design (including plans, specifications, and estimates). Please see Attachment 1, the Project Development Application, for more information. The availability of construction and right-of-way funds is uncertain at this writing. In anticipation of receiving additional funds for implementing projects, a second application provided in Attachment 2. ***Only projects submitted through this process will be considered for the 2000 STIP funds should they become available.*** The MTA Board has anticipated funding regional corridors from STIP funds advanced by the Governor's initiative.

2000 STIP CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

While the program is still developing, the MTA is issuing an abbreviated STIP Call for Projects. This Call will include the following categories of STIP-eligible capital projects:

- Freeway Improvements
- Regional Surface Transportation Improvements
- Signal Synchronization & Bus Speed Improvements
- Bikeways and Pedestrian Improvements
- Transit Capital

Eligibility and Process

To be eligible for *implementation* funding, a project must have Project Study Report (PSR) or its equivalent, as follows: For projects on a state route, a completed PSR; for local projects, a completed PSR-equivalent; or, for a transit project, a completed Major Investment Study/Alternatives Analysis (MIS/AA). For *project development* funds, the PSR requirement has been simplified by Caltrans. More information about the simplified PSR requirements for project development funds can be found on the internet at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/pdpmb/pdp.htm>

Funding will be for projects or STIP-eligible phases of projects that must be initiated by 2004. Recognizing the extremely short timeframe, the MTA has prepared a simplified application, which is described in Attachments 1 and 2.

Freeway and Intercity/Commuter Rail improvements are expected to be included in the State Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP). The Governor's Budget calls for a match from Regional/County STIP funds for all ITIP projects. Caltrans District 7 should be contacted for more information about the ITIP.

Workshop Scheduled

The MTA will hold a workshop on Friday, March 10, 2000 from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon in the Windsor Room on the 15th Floor at MTA Headquarters, One Gateway Plaza, behind Union

Memo To: City Managers, Public Works Directors, and Transit Managers
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Station in downtown Los Angeles. The workshop will include a review of the status of the 2000 STIP and an update on the evolving availability of state transportation funds. MTA staff will be available at that time to address any questions about the program and the process.