



July 6, 1995

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

TO: BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES
FROM: FRANKLIN E. WHITE *FEW*
SUBJECT: FEDERAL FUNDING ACTION ITEM -- PHONE CALLS

318 West Seventh Street
Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90017
213.972.6000

As we reported to you, the House Appropriations Committee reported the FY 1996 Department of Transportation (DOT) Appropriation bill for House floor consideration. The spending bill is tentatively scheduled to be brought to a House floor vote the week of July 10 or July 17.

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 194
Los Angeles, CA 90053

The bill being sent to the House floor by the Appropriations Committee is similar to the Subcommittee bill which reduces DOT programs by 10 percent over last year's level and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs by roughly 13 percent. The attached June 22 memo reports the FTA funding levels as proposed by the Appropriations Committee. It includes, among other things, \$125 million for the Metro Red Line Segment 3. However, the bill still reduces operating assistance by 44 percent.

ACTION ITEM - SUPPORT FEDERAL TRANSIT FUNDING

Please contact Southern California congressional members and urge them to vote "yes" on the FY 1996 DOT spending bill when it comes to a House floor vote. Additionally, seek their support for any amendments that would increase federal operating funding. The bill includes language to repeal Section 13(c) of the Transit Act. This provision will be the source of a "lively" debate on the House floor.

The Southern California congressional delegation phone list is attached. Congress is on recess until they reconvene on Tuesday, July 11, therefore, calls made prior to the 11th should be made to the local district offices.

When speaking to Appropriations Committee members Dixon, Lewis, Packard and Torres, please thank them for their continued support and for protecting the MTA from "attack" during the Appropriations Committee meeting of June 30th.

We will continue to need your leadership and active support as the bill, after the House floor vote, goes to the Senate Appropriations Transportation Subcommittee. If you have any questions, please contact Arthur Sohikian at (213) 244-7435.

Attachments (3)



June 22, 1995

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

TO: MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES
FROM: FRANKLIN E. WHITE *fw*
SUBJECT: FY 1996 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
APPROPRIATIONS ACT

18 West Seventh Street
Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90017
213.972.6000

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 194
Los Angeles, CA 90053

Yesterday, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Chaired by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA), reported the FY 1996 Department of Transportation (DOT) Appropriations Act for full Appropriations Committee consideration.

Thanks to the leadership of the MTA Board of Directors, the Southern California Congressional delegation, and the numerous civic and business leaders who spoke out against drastic federal transportation cuts, we are pleased to report that federal transit funding did not suffer to the degree proposed in the Budget Resolution.

As we have reported, both the House and Senate FY 1996 Budget Resolutions called for dramatic reductions in the projects and programs administered by the DOT's Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Specifically, while transit makes up only 11 percent of DOT's spending, it was asked to incur over 40 percent of the proposed reductions, including the elimination of the Section 3 New Start program and the phase out of federal operating assistance.

Specifically, the bill reported by the subcommittee, reduces DOT programs by 10 percent over last year's level and FTA programs by 13 percent.

Section 9 Formula Program

Capital Program: \$1.841 billion available nationwide, a reduction of 19 percent. However, the matching level remains 80 percent federal and 20 percent local (the ratio was proposed to change to 50/50).

Operating Assistance: 400 million would be available nationwide, a reduction of 44 percent from last year. Since the MTA had anticipated a 30 percent reduction, the proposed reduction in operating assistance would be an additional loss of \$5 to \$7 million for the region.

The capital program would be reduced by 19% nationwide which includes the reduction in operating assistance.

Therefore, the actual amount that the MTA and the region would have available for capital assistance, would be reduced by \$132 million nationwide or approximately 8% from last year.

Section 3 Discretionary Program

New Start:	Los Angeles Metro Rail Segment 3 - \$125 million of the \$665.8 million available nationwide. This represents the highest transit mark in the bill and 19 percent of the nation's total.
Bus & Bus Facilities:	The Gateway Intermodal Transit Center - \$8 million of the \$333 million available nationwide. In addition, Foothill Transit received \$12.5 for bus maintenance facilities.

Section 26 Planning and Research Program

The program was reduced approximately 12 percent, but the ATTB will be mentioned in the report language that accompanies the legislation "urging the Administration to continue this high priority R&D project."

This bill includes "language to repeal Section 13 (c) of the Transit Act and abrogate all existing contracts." Additionally, the bill would permit bus overhauls to be funded from the capital program.

The House Appropriations Committee is tentatively scheduled to hear the FY 1996 DOT spending bill on June 30, with a floor vote tentatively scheduled for July 11. Two weeks after House action, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation is tentatively scheduled to "mark-up" their version of the DOT spending bill.

We will continue to need your leadership and active support as the bill moves through the budget process. If you have any questions, please contact Arthur Sohikian (213) 244-7435.

We will provide you with an update at the next regular MTA Board meeting.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS

REPUBLICAN MEMBERS

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Esteban Torres
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(213) 757-9506 FAX

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(310) 348-8526 FAX

Walter R. Tucker
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(202) 225-7926 FAX
(310) 884-9989
(310) 884-9023 FAX

CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC SENATORS

Barbara Boxer
(202) 224-3553
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(310) 414-5700
(310) 414-0980 FAX

Dianne Feinstein
(202) 224-3841
(202) 228-3954 FAX
(310) 914-7300
(310) 914-7318 FAX

* **Boldface** indicates Member of the Committee on Appropriations

Send letters to a Senator:
The Honorable (name)
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Send letters to a Representative:
The Honorable (name)
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



INTEROFFICE
MEMORANDUM

June 8, 1995

MEMO TO: FRANKLIN E. WHITE
THROUGH: BARRY L. ENGELBERG *BB*
FROM: ARTHUR V. SOHIKIAN
SUBJECT: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION SUPPORT LETTER

Today, the attached Southern California Congressional delegation support letter was delivered to Frank Wolf (R-VA), Chair of the Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation.

Tentative Schedule

- Mr. Wolf has indicated his desire to "mark-up" the FY 1996 DOT Appropriations bill on Thursday, June 15, but there is a good chance it would happen the week of June 19. It could happen during the days the MTA is in Washington June 20 - June 21.
- The House and Senate budget conferee members met today to discuss the different FY 1996 Budget Resolutions. There is no indication, at this time, when agreement will be reached and when the House and Senate would vote on the final FY 1996 Budget Resolution. However, it is clear the Appropriations process will begin in the meantime.

Frank White
June 8, 1995
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We will continue with our bi-partisan effort to achieve the highest possible funding levels for the transportation programs and projects for Los Angeles County.

In addition, we are continuing our effort, with APTA and key congressional members, to get the President/Administration to speak to the positive impacts public transit has for the millions who depend on it every day.

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Attachments (3)

cc: J. Adams
L. Bohlinger
G. Clark
J. Drew
R. Goldsmith
K. Kimball
A. Leahy
J. Pierce
J. Schwartze
J. Smart
J. Wilson
File

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 19, 1995

Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you begin your deliberations of the FY 1996 Department of Transportation (DOT) Appropriations bill, we would respectfully urge that the committee support the programs and projects sponsored by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), such as the Metro Rail Red Line, the Gateway Intermodal Transit Center, and the Advanced Technology Transit Bus (ATTB).

The DOT report on transit needs for FY 1996 (the report required by Section 3(j) of the ISTEA) recommended funding the Los Angeles Metro Rail project at \$158.8 million. Before your committee in March, the MTA testified that it could spend up to \$203 million on the continued final design and construction of the Red Line Segment 3.

In one day of construction on the Red Line, the MTA invests about \$3 million in the economy, and in 1994 alone, created over 15,000 jobs through Metro Rail construction. At the completion of Segments 2 and 3, over 100,000 jobs will have been created.

Recognizing the funding constraints facing the Appropriations Committee this year, we would urge the committee to fund this vital transportation project at the recommended level of \$158.8 million.

This committee has funded the Gateway Intermodal Transit Center over the last three years and we are pleased to report that the MTA's FY 1996 request of \$15 million in Section 3 Bus funds would complete the federal funding share. The Transit Center is scheduled to open this fall and per the guidelines established by the ISTEA, has recently been designated by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a Turnkey Demonstration project. We urge the committee's continued support for this important transportation hub.

Mr. Chairman, we appreciate your support for the ATTB funded under the FTA's Planning and Research program. FTA Administrator Linton mentioned the ATTB as a national priority research and

Honorable Frank Wolf
May 15, 1995
Page 2

development project in his remarks before you on March 8, 1995 and the project is an ideal example of the potential for conversion of defense technology to commercial use.

Finally, we urge the committee to fund transit operating assistance at the highest level possible to avoid subsequent impacts on service and fares at the MTA, as well as transit agencies throughout the nation.

Mr. Chairman, we are aware of the problems associated with allocating scarce resources to the projects and programs of value that have been requested. We thank you for your continued leadership in this process and appreciate your commitment to assisting the Los Angeles region in its efforts to build an efficient and comprehensive transportation network.

Sincerely,

P. O. Di

Esteban E. Torres

Carlos Moorhead

Walter Jackson

Jane Horn

Matthew S. Martinez

Tommy Beikens

Daniel Dreier

Jerry Lewis

Javier Becerra

Buck McKeon

Lucille Roybal-Allard

Stephen Horn

Howard L. Berman

Wendell Roybal

Jay Kins

Signatures on the Letter to Chairman Wolf

The Honorable Julian C. Dixon

The Honorable Jerry Lewis

The Honorable Esteban E. Torres

The Honorable Xavier Becerra

The Honorable Carlos J. Moorhead

The Honorable Howard "Buck" McKeon

The Honorable Walter R. Tucker, III

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard

The Honorable Jane Harman

The Honorable Stephen Horn

The Honorable Matthew G. Martinez

The Honorable Howard L. Berman

The Honorable Anthony Beilenson

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman

The Honorable David Dreier

The Honorable Jay Kim