



February 18, 1997

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA  
90012

**FROM: LINDA BOHLINGER, INTERIM  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**SUBJECT: ISTE A II MTA PROJECT LIST**

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At the January 22, 1997 Board of Directors meeting, the MTA approved six specific regional bus, rail and highway projects for potential inclusion in the ISTE A II legislation. MTA staff met with members and staff of Los Angeles' Congressional delegation in early February to garner support for MTA's ISTE A II bus, rail, and highway projects list. Three members of Congress asked staff to go back to the Board to seek inclusion of the Eastside project to Whittier/Atlantic in the rail component of the project list.

The attached update describes the issue, provides some background information, and poses several options for the Board to consider at tomorrow's Special Board Workshop at 2:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Rae James at (213) 922-2225 or Jim de la Loza at (213) 922-3071.

Attachment

Supplemental ISTEA II MTA Project Requests  
For Discussion of the ISTEA Agenda Item at the February 19, 1997  
Special Board Workshop at 2:00 p.m.

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

#### Issue:

- MTA staff met with members and staff of L.A. Congressional delegation to garner support for MTA's ISTEA II bus, rail, and highway projects list.
- Three members of Congress asked staff to go back to the Board to seek inclusion of the Eastside project to Whittier/Atlantic in the rail component of the project list.

#### Background:

- Members of Congress must submit project requests to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on behalf of local and regional agencies by February 25, 1997.
- ISTEA II will most likely be a 5-year bill and will cover the FY 1998 - FY 2003 timeframe.
- The rail component of the project list, adopted January 22, 1997, includes:
  - \$100 million increase for MOS-3 Mid-City Extension
  - \$58 million for MOS-4, specifically referencing San Fernando Valley East-West extension engineering and final design.
- The Board approved the 1995 Adopted Long Range Transportation Plan, and reaffirmed several times since, that the San Fernando Valley East/West Line will be the next rail project built beyond MOS-3 and Pasadena Blue Line.
- The Adopted Long Range Plan included the strategy to advance MOS-4 (San Fernando Valley line, and the Red Line East to Atlantic and West to the 405) for potential federalization under ISTEA II.
- It is important to include funding for MOS-4 projects in ISTEA II so that the MTA can request federal funds for the construction of MOS-4 in ISTEA III.

**Options for Board:**

1. Status Quo - Leave the rail component of the ISTEA II project list as currently approved by the Board and seek Congressional support.
  
2. Consider the L.A. Congressional delegations' request to add continued commitment for the MOS-4 Eastside Extension to the MTA's ISTEA project list:
  - The amended rail component would be as follows:  
  
\$100 million increase for MOS-3 Mid-City Extension  
\$58 million for MOS-4, San Fernando Valley East-West Line engineering and final design.  
\$44 million for MOS-4, Eastern Extension engineering and final design.  
  
Reductions, if any, by Congress of these amounts will be proportional.
  
  - Enter into discussions with the federal government seeking a Full Funding Grant Agreement for MOS-4, San Fernando Valley East/West Line, Eastern Extension and Western Extension.
  
3. Change the request in the ISTEA project list for MOS-4 to \$102 million
  - The amended rail component would be as follows:  
  
\$100 million increase for MOS-3 Mid-City Extension  
\$102 million for MOS-4, San Fernando Valley East-West Line, Eastern Extension Red Line Eastern Extension to Atlantic and Red Line Western Extension to the 405 Freeway engineering and final design.
  
  - Enter into discussions with the federal government seeking a Full Funding Grant Agreement for MOS-4, San Fernando Valley East/West Line, Eastern Extension and Western Extension.