



August 18, 1998

Julian Burke
CEO

The Honorable Quentin Kopp
Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee
California State Senate
P.O. Box 942848
Sacramento, CA 94248-0001

Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

The Honorable Betty Karnette
California State Senate
P.O. Box 942848
Sacramento, CA 94248-0001

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2932

Dear Chairman Quentin Kopp and Senator Betty Karnette:

Phone: 213.922.4788
Fax: 213.922.7447

On July 23, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) adopted a "work with authors" position on SB 1477. The parameters of the position, however, were that the bill not negatively impact the 1998 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Recently, it has come to my attention that Caltrans and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) have raised serious concerns about the impact of directing \$600 million in State Highway Account funds to cities and counties. Caltrans, indeed, has testified that SB 1477, if enacted into law, will impact the 1998 STIP and would result in the "deprogramming" of funds for important projects throughout the state.

In a recent communication to me from the California Transportation Authority (CTC) providing the schedule for an upcoming workshop, the following statement is provided under the subtitle "Key Issue:" "If SB 1477 and AB 1686 pass, the State Highway Account would not have sufficient funds in fiscal year 2001-2002 to meet the project commitments programmed in the 1998 and 2000 STIPs."

The matching fund requirement in AB 1686 certainly would mitigate the impact of this bill on the STIP. There is no apparent comparable mitigation factor in SB 1477.

Given the Caltrans and CTC analysis of SB 1477 and the MTA Board's direction on this issue, I must now inform you that the MTA opposes the bill as it is currently written. I hope you will pardon the late notice of this change in position. Please feel free to contact me with your questions and comments on this matter.

Sincerely,

Julian Burke
Chief Executive Officer

cc: MTA Board of Directors
Los Angeles County Delegation