



MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

DATE: June 20, 1997

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: GISELLE ACEVEDO-FRANCO

- SB 567 (Polanco), the bill which would restructure the MTA Board, has been "doubly referred." The bill will now be considered by the Assembly Committee on Transportation (date to be determined) and the Assembly Committee on Elections, Reapportionment & Constitutional Amendments. The Assembly Transportation Committee chairman is Assembly Member Kevin Murray (D-LA). The Assembly Elections Committee chairman is Assembly Member Ed Vincent (D-Inglewood).
- Staff has learned that AB 1521 may become the legislative vehicle to give the California Transportation Commission the authority to issue a loan from state transportation funds for MTA transit projects. As part of the Recovery Plan approved by the MTA Board of Directors, staff was directed to pursue efforts to secure a loan to keep the construction of the Pasadena Blue Line on schedule. Assembly Member Jack Scott and Senator Adam Schiff have introduced legislation in this regard. In light of recent concerns expressed by many local, state and federal representatives, a coalition of legislators from the San Fernando Valley have been working with Assembly Member Scott and Senator Schiff to specify the amount of funding for Pasadena and include funding for the San Fernando Valley East/West line in the loan request. Additionally, Chairman Murray is requesting language be added to the loan authority bill requesting funding for a "tram/busway" on the Exposition Blvd. Right-of-Way. AB 1521, which is pending consideration in the Senate, is currently a bill authored by Assembly Member Murray with provisions unrelated to the loan issue. The bill would be amended to include the loan provisions and identify Assembly Member Scott and Senator Schiff as the authors. Staff will communicate more about this effort next week.