

MOTION by SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

February 17, 2000

Proposition 15 has been placed on the upcoming California Ballot on March 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a bond measure that would provide \$220 million dollars in bonds to renovate and build forensics labs across California.

In Los Angeles County it would generate approximately \$95 million dollars and help fund a proposed \$132 million dollar, sorely needed, state-of-the-art facility on the campus of Cal. State Los Angeles. This new forensics facility would be shared by the Sheriffs Department, LAPD and the California Highway Patrol.

Given the existing backlog of approximately 2,000 cases countywide, there is a critical need for additional forensic facilities. It is appropriate then, that this MTA Board of Directors support the law enforcement community in bringing much needed crime lab resources to the communities we serve.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that this MTA Board endorse the passage of Proposition 15 on the March 7<sup>th</sup> ballot.

## PROPOSITION 15 EXECUTIVE INFORMATION SHEET

### Existing Sheriff's Crime Lab

- 70,000 submissions a year - approx. one half of the submissions are LASD's
- staff of 181 employees
- provides forensic science support for nearly all law enforcement agencies, except LAPD
- four regional laboratories (Century, Lancaster, West Covina and Whittier)
- two main facilities (L.A. on Beverly Blvd. and Downey)
- Bureau consists of physical evidence, latent prints, crime scene investigations, questioned documents, narcotics, evidence control, photographic laboratory, firearms identification, forensic biology, serology, toxicology, blood alcohol and training applications
- Back log of roughly 2000 cases (murders, rapes and violent assaults)
- Critical need for work space

### Proposition 15

- California bond measure that will generate \$220 million
- March 7, 2000 ballot
- \$95 million allotted to Los Angeles County
- fiscal impact - \$15 million per year over 25 years - less than 45 cents per Californian per year.
- Overwhelming support throughout California

### Legislation

- Sheriff Baca was the sponsor of the legislation that placed Prop. 15 on the ballot
- He is the chairman of the statewide campaign

### New Regional Crime Lab

- State-of-the-Art facility on the campus of Cal State L.A.
- Shared with LAPD, CHP and Cal State L.A.
- teaching facility
- 326,000 square feet
- estimated cost of \$132 million