



MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

January 9, 1997

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE:

FROM: GISSELLE ACEVEDO-FRANCO

- The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved its "County Goals, Policies, and Specific Proposals for the 1997 - 1998 State Legislative Session" on Tuesday, January 7, 1997. **As part of its Program Specific Legislative Goals, the Board recommended to pursue legislation that: validates the enactment of SB 727, or provides, in the event a Court of Appeal holds SB 727 to be unconstitutional, that no repayment of the \$50 million shall be required, and/or that the \$50 million was taken from a source other than transportation dollars.**

SB 727, (Chapter 518, Statutes of 1995) authorized the Board of Supervisors to transfer to the County general fund \$50 million from the MTA without a payment requirement. In subsequent litigation, the court has determined that SB 727 was special legislation, and therefore, in violation of the California Constitution.

- Also on Tuesday, the Los Angeles City Council adopted its Intergovernmental Relations Committee's Legislative Policy Statement on Transportation for the 1997-98 Legislative Session. The Policy Statement addresses and supports the following:
 - 1) multimodalism, transit centers, goods movement and livable cities;
 - 2) the financing of transportation projects of statewide economic significance including Dreamworks, Alameda Corridor, LANI projects, and local Business Improvement District (BID) Projects;
 - 3) Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) advancements;
 - 4) ISTEA
 - 5) a new funding concept such as Federal and State Infrastructure Banks to expedite priority transportation projects; and
 - 6) bus service enhancements to transit-dependent people including safe and clean buses.
- Staff continues to request information regarding the January 28, Senate Committee on Transportation hearing scheduled for the Gateway Building Boardroom. To date, no agenda has been written, but Committee staff indicates issues of discussion will include: Board composition; financing; the Los Angeles County Rail Plan. Additionally, some mention was made of a discussion on whether the issue of the merger of planning and operations functions into one agency should be revisited in legislation.

For more information regarding City of L.A. or County of L.A. Issues, please contact Audrey Noda at 213/922-2238.