



MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

DATE September 4, 1997

TO: MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES

FROM: GISSELLE ACEVEDO-FRANCO

Today, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bud Shuster (R-PA) introduced legislation to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). Chairman Shuster's proposal is titled "The Building Efficient Surface Transportation and Equity Act of 1997" (BESTEA). The legislation is scheduled to be considered by the Surface Transportation Subcommittee on September 10th, and by the full Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on September 17th.

- BESTEA is a three-year bill and provides a total of \$103.2 billion for highways, highway safety and transit. The yearly breakdown of funds is:
 - FY 1998 -- \$30.3 billion total; \$5.4 billion for transit
 - FY 1999 -- \$34.4 billion total; \$5.9 billion for transit
 - FY 2000 -- \$38.4 billion total; \$6.4 billion for transit
- Among other things, the more than 300-page bill transfers the Highway Trust Fund off-budget and retains the general structure of ISTEA, including the continuation of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program. While the legislation does not include specific project earmarks, it is likely that such projects will be added during the full Committee markup on September 17th.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Ron Stone at (213) 922-2232.



MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

September 3, 1997

DATE: _____

TO: MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES

FROM: GISSELLE ACEVEDO-FRANCO

Today, on a 12-0 vote (Absent: Bernson, Hernandez, Svorinich) the Los Angeles City Council approved the following motion:

- Propose the necessary fund transfers and appropriation to a single account in connection with the contract with the City and the MTA for "Metro Rail Segment 3 Construction" which requires the City to pay the MTA a total of \$55,445,690 which is \$58 million less administrative credit of \$2,554,310 by September 5, 1997. This is the initial payment for the MTA/City of L.A. \$200 million agreement.
- Advise the Council that the Chair of the Transportation Committee will be sending a letter to MTA requesting MTA to respond relative to its progress in accomplishing the milestones for 1997-98 FY and thereafter as outlined in the funding agreement between the City and the MTA including a review of discussions with federal and state funding agencies, potential funding sources, cost-containment efforts and schedules for planned projects.

For more information regarding this issue, please call Audrey Noda at 213/922-2238.