



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro****Legislative Brief**

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**TO: MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS****FROM: ROGER SNOBLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER****State****State Budget**

Earlier this week, Governor Schwarzenegger announced agreements with certain tribal councils relating to revised Indian Gaming Compacts. Under this agreement, \$1 billion will be provided from gaming revenues to the state. As identified by the Governor in his January Budget proposal, these funds will be allocated to transportation.

Earlier, the Budget Conference Committee approved the allocation of these revenues to transportation as repayment of loans made through previous budget decisions. According to this recommendation, both the Traffic Congestion Relief Program and the State Highway Account will receive partial repayment.

Yesterday, the Governor's office convened a meeting of transportation interests to discuss the path forward for the compacts and sought the support of transportation advocates to seek approval of the compacts in the Legislature. The path forward as outlined by the Governor's office consists of amending a bill in the Senate on Monday to include language which will ratify the compacts. The Senate next week could consider this bill.

Transportation advocates have been requested by the Governor's office to support the compacts through the legislative process, as the revenue generated will be made available for transportation. Since these funds will be of benefit to transportation, MTA staff intends to authorize MTA's advocates in Sacramento to work with the Governor's office in support of the revenue to transportation.

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