

Monorail Line Called Transit Woes' Answer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A California congressman said Monday that an overhead transit system — such as Seattle's monorail line—offers the best hope for solving the traffic woes of major cities.

Rep. Everett G. Burkhalter (D-Cal.), former Los Angeles city councilman, advanced the view before a Senate subcommittee studying legislation for federal aid to urban transportation systems.

Still Makes Money

Seattle Mayor Gordon S. Clinton said the city's 1.2 mile monorail had been installed as a "gimmick" for the Seattle World's Fair last year but is continuing to make money.

However, Clinton's chief argument was for an amendment to mass transit legislation to approve of the purchase of transit rights-of-way "along with rights-of-way for federal highways."

Also speaking for the American Municipal Assn., the Seattle mayor said that providing for mass transit systems would save money in the long run.

Supports Arguments

V. E. Gunlock, chairman of the Chicago Board of Transit, tended to support Clinton's arguments in favor of transit systems parallel to express highways.

Gunlock said Chicago had recognized the "utter futility" of trying to perform day-to-day transportation chores with private automobiles. He said adding a median strip subway to Chicago's Congress Expressway had increased passenger capacity four times at "comparatively small increase" in cost.