

Opposition Develops on Monorail

Route Alignments of Proposed Systems Criticized by Group

Some opposition has developed in the Metropolitan Transit Authority's initial attempt to determine official government policy on route alignments for two proposed monorail systems here.

Supervisor Ernest E. Debs said he would not give a "blank check" to the MTA for rights-of-way for the Alweg and Goodell monorail routes.

At the same time, other board members expressed their opposition to any piecemeal solution to the rapid transit problem here.

This was an obvious reference to Goodell's proposal to build a 17-mile "specialized" monorail line linking downtown Los Angeles and International Airport.

MTA Request

The supervisors' comments were prompted by an MTA request that the board consider the use of public rights-of-way as a step toward development of Alweg's 43-mile system and Goodell's downtown-airport line.

The request was forwarded to L. S. Hollinger, the county's chief administrative officer, County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy, the Regional Planning Commission and the road commissioner for study.

Goodell has since submitted an expanded proposal to the MTA. It would call for a 60-mile rapid transit system using suspended monorail cars operating on lines running to Westwood, El Monte, Van Nuys and the airport.

San Gabriel's City Council notified the MTA that it is opposed to the use of Valley Blvd. for the line's east leg.

"The basic route proposed down Valley Blvd. is not acceptable," said William J. Probert, San Gabriel's chief administrative officer. "The City Council and the citizens of our community, however, do believe that a rapid transit system would be of value to the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area."

El Monte Approves

El Monte, in another communication to MTA, said it endorses "in principle" the Alweg proposal. El Monte would be at the eastern terminus of the San Gabriel Valley leg.

The MTA received protests from Mrs. E. Lester Cutting, president of Ebell of Los Angeles, and a board member of the Fremont Place Assn.

Both Ebell and Fremont Place are located in a section of the Wilshire district where the Alweg monorail would run.