

Expansion of Bus Service Favored

Councilman Doubts Monorail System Could Be Self-Sustaining

NORTH HOLLYWOOD — Councilman Louis R. Nowell said Tuesday that expansion of bus service might provide a better rapid transit system for the Valley than monorail.

"I don't believe that an overhead monorail system will be a self-sustaining venture. The cost of a skyline system would be a tremendous undertaking and I anticipate that we may be forced to resort to subsidies in order to continue maintaining this kind of rapid transit system in the future."

Nowell made the statement following a meeting here Monday of representatives of the Metropolitan Transit Authority with Valley governmental, civic and business leaders.

System Needed

The community leaders stayed away from expressing a preference for either monorail or expanded bus service but declared that a rapid transit system is needed between the Valley and other Los Angeles areas.

Nowell said that monorail probably would not be favored by residents.

"They are accustomed to traveling everywhere for both business and pleasure by automobile and I question whether they would ever abandon the family car for a monorail ride that ended far short of their desired destination," he said.

Routes Proposed

At the MTA meeting here four alternate routes for monorail were discussed, all using Cahuenga Pass with three ending on Victory Blvd. near the San Diego Freeway and the other terminating at Van Nuys Blvd. and Sherman Way.

Nowell said at the present he does not favor one route over the other but would make a study of the proposed alignments before making a recommendation.

The MTA is studying proposals to build monorail systems as well as the use of a rail system incorporating both surface and subway routes to provide rapid transit in the Los Angeles area.