



April 3, 1995

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MTA INVITES ISLANDERS TO PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 18
TO DISCUSS SANTA CATALINA'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

The MTA will hold a public hearing to obtain ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs on Santa Catalina Island Tuesday, April 18, at 7 p.m. at Catalina Justice Court, 215 Sumner Avenue, Avalon.

The island is eligible to receive a share of California Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for transportation-related projects. "The Transportation Development Act, passed in 1971, gives areas that are not included in MTA's service area a chance to share in a portion of TDA funds to help pay for local public transit needs," said Franklin White, MTA's chief executive officer.

"But a real need must be established. That's why we strongly encourage Santa Catalina Island residents and visitors to attend this hearing and tell us what their specific transit needs are."

Following the hearing, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the MTA ultimately decides whether there are existing unmet transit needs, White said. If no reasonable "unmet transit needs" are identified, funds may then be used for street and road improvements.

Those unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to the MTA by May 2, 1995. Comments should be sent to MTA TDA Article 8 Hearing

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Record, P.O. Box 194, Los Angeles, CA 90053, attention Brynn Kernaghan.

For information about TDA funds or the public hearing, call Brynn Kernaghan at (213) 244-6533.

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