



# NEWS

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## **MTA RAIL STATION TO BE RENAMED IN HONOR OF REP. JULIAN DIXON**

One of the MTA's busiest Metro Rail stations will be renamed after U.S. Rep. Julian Dixon (D-Culver City), a longtime supporter of public transit projects in Los Angeles, including the Metro Rail and Metro Bus systems. Dixon passed away on December 8 at the age of 66.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and Metro station, junction of the Metro Red Line subway and light rail Metro Blue Line, will now be known as the Seventh/Metro Center/ Julian Dixon Metro Rail station, following today's unanimous approval by the MTA Board of Directors. The MTA also will honor Dixon by placing a plaque at the station in a prominent location.

MTA Board Chair and Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke proposed the name change last week at the MTA's Executive Management meeting by introducing a motion that also was unanimously passed. The motion read in part: "Los Angeles County, transportation services, and this agency suffered a great loss with the passing of Congressman Julian Dixon. Serving in the Congress for 22 years, he saw beyond the borders of his own district and beyond the next election.

"He knew that Los Angeles County needed alternatives to freeways and automobiles. He was 'The Voice' of Los Angeles County transportation in Washington. He led the effort to secure federal funding for Metro Rail and, together with the late Tom Bradley and Kenny Hahn, put together the combination of federal, state and local funding that established this critical component of Los Angeles' mass transit system. But he wasn't only a

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champion of rail. Congressman Dixon also helped secure funding to revamp MTA's bus service and provide funding for more than a dozen municipal bus operators in Los Angeles County..."

Burke said she recommended the 7<sup>th</sup> and Metro Station because "that station brings together two important rail lines, both of which Dixon was key in assisting us with funding."

"Congressman Dixon was our voice in Washington," said Burke. "He fought when no one else would to make sure we were fully funded. He has been identified with Los Angeles County transportation."

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