

MOTION**2/16/05****By****Director Tom LaBonge**

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to the regional transportation system for the MTA to have maximum flexibility when planning future mass transit projects that may include the construction of underground rail segments along transportation corridors.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the MTA Board direct the CEO to:

Include in the MTA Long Range Transportation Plan a countywide policy, standards and/or criteria for determining where best to construct underground rail;

Work to remove the federal prohibition on the use of federal funds for rail tunneling in potential or high potential methane gas risk zones;

Analyze the impact of removing restrictions on the use of transportation sales tax revenues for planning, design and construction of heavy rail tunnels in Los Angeles County; and

Assess any potential financial implications of removing restrictions on the use of transportation sales tax revenues for heavy rail tunneling on the capability of the MTA to develop and implement current, planned or approved transit projects and/or programs such as the Eastside extension of the Gold Line, the Exposition Line and other projects related to them.

