

## Automated Toilet Contract Signed; First Units Expected in Dec. 2000



**Contract Signing:** Frank Cardenas, Administration chief (center), signed the APT contract with Omni Outdoor/STI officials Gary Baiz (L) and Juan Levy ( R ). Looking on are Augustin Zuniga of the County Counsel's office and Velma Marshall, MTA Real Estate manager.

(November 12) It's been almost three years in the planning - and there's another year to go - but in December, 2000, Metro riders and MTA employees should be able to flush the first Automated Public Toilets (APT) to be installed in Los Angeles.

A contract signed Friday on behalf of the MTA by Frank Cardenas, Administration executive officer, gives Omni Outdoor/STI permission to install APTs at 10 MTA locations and advertising kiosks or billboards at a total of 54 locations at no cost to the MTA.

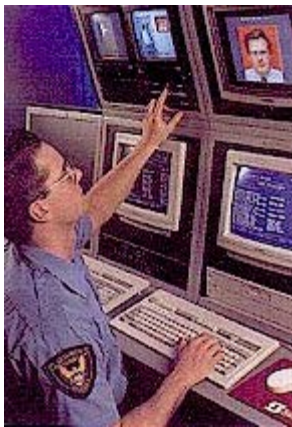
Five of the APTs are to be installed for use in December, 2000, and the remainder during 2001. The MTA also has the option to order additional toilets beyond the first 10.

- **Artist's rendering of Automated Public Toilet unit as it will appears on the streetscape.**
- **Illustration demonstrates comprehensive safety features.**

In return, the MTA will receive a 10 percent share of all advertising revenues – an estimated \$4 million over 10 years. The agency also will get \$100,000 of free radio time annually for 10 years and free public service ad space on the kiosks and billboards. Not to mention the ability to offer free use of the automated toilets to Metro Bus and Metro Rail riders. The MTA Board has prohibited any charge to the public.

During the next 13 months, the contractor will be contacting various cities to obtain permits to erect the billboards and locate the kiosks. By contract, the company must have received the first 41 permits by Aug. 31, 2000.

In addition to a toilet, the 10-ton APTs will have a sink, mirror and coat hooks. They are automatically washed, disinfected and dried after each use. Electronic sensors, alarms and voice links with a monitoring station will



prevent a person from being caught in the cleaning cycle and will ensure users' safety. A technician will inspect the APTs daily, collect refuse and deal with any graffiti.

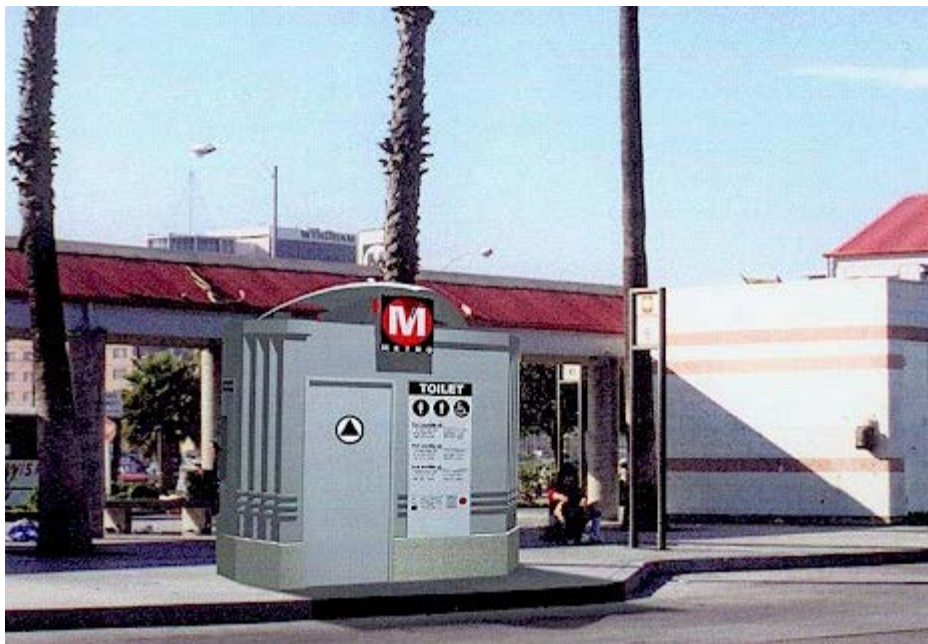
**Security officers monitor safety with 2-way audio system, infrared sensors, and emergency call buttons and lights.**

All APTs, according to the contractor, will be in 100 percent compliance with ADA regulations. Door sills are at ground level and the units are large enough to accommodate and maneuver a motorized wheelchair. Bars and handholds are installed to assist the disabled. The units also have baby changing tables.

Proposed locations for APTs are 5th and Hill, Wilshire/Vermont, Wilshire/Western and Hollywood/Western; the Metro Blue Line station at Imperial/Wilmington; Metro Green Line stations at Aviation, Norwalk, Long Beach, Lakewood and the Harbor Freeway; the LAX Bus Terminal and at the new Pico/Rimpau Loop bus terminal.

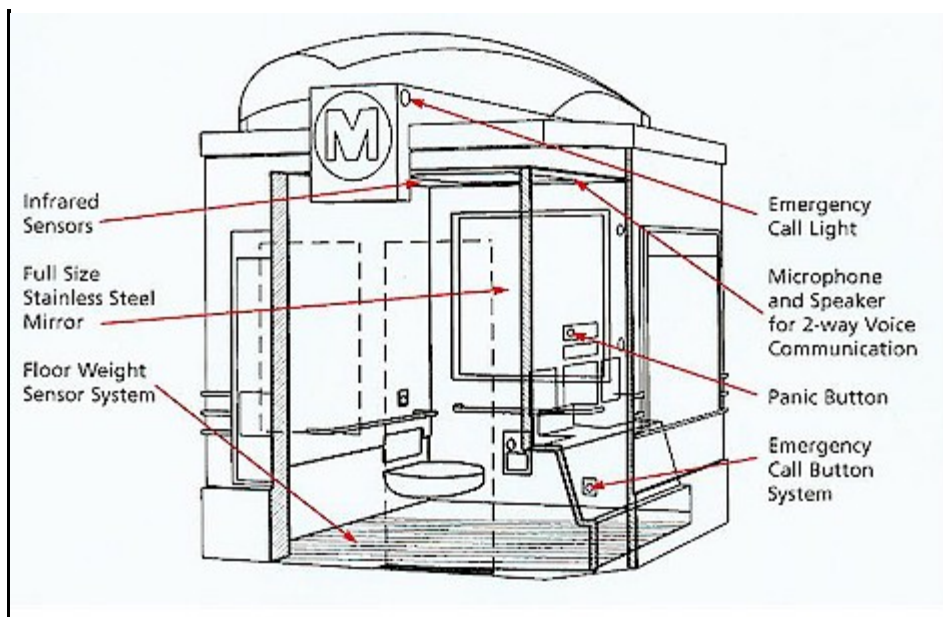
Other potential sites are the Metrolink stations at Northridge and Sylmar/San Fernando and at Metro Bus Terminals 26 and 45.

APT's were developed 18 years ago in France and Italy and currently are in use in many European cities, including Paris, London and Rome. San Francisco has 20 APT's and soon will install another 30. Six are in use in San Jose and one in Palo Alto.



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**Artist's rendering of Automated Public Toilet unit, above, and illustration, below, demonstrate comprehensive safety and streetscape features.**



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