

LA City Council Votes to Join Valley Transit Zone Authority

(Jan. 13) On an 11-3 vote, the Los Angeles City Council voted Tuesday to join an interim Joint Powers Authority with eight other cities and the County of Los Angeles to establish a transit zone in the San Fernando Valley.

The vote included a provision allowing the city to spend \$77,500 for a "bottoms up" analysis of the cost of operating a zone and a review of the data the MTA has compiled on the possible divestiture of the bus lines and transit divisions it operates in the Valley.

Mayor Riordan's motion

Mayor Richard Riordan has filed a motion with the MTA's Executive Management Committee which, if approved by the full Board, would transfer \$140,000 from the Board's contingency account to the Greater San Fernando Valley Transportation Zone to pay for the study.

The mayor's motion says the MTA's estimates of subsidies that would be needed to operate a transit zone in the Valley changed during 1999 from \$82 per hour to \$69 per hour. It would direct the CEO to "work cooperatively" with the zone and its consultant "to refine the available subsidy numbers."

The City Council vote links the City of Los Angeles with the cities of Burbank, Glendale, La Cañada-Flintridge, San Fernando, Agoura Hills, Calabassas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village and the County of Los Angeles in forming the transit zone.

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