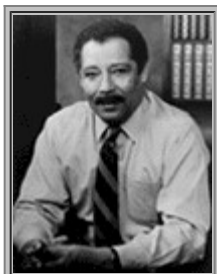


EDITOR'S NOTE: The MTA has set up a temporary Memorial Fund on behalf of Congressman Julian C. Dixon, who died Dec. 8. Employees may make contributions at the MTA Credit Union or at the Government Relations office on the 19th floor. The Dixon family has requested that all contributions be given to the American Heart Association and/or to the American Cancer Society. Contributions will be accepted until close of business on Monday, Dec. 18. For further information, contact Marisa Yeager at 922-2262.

Rep. Julian Dixon, LA Transit Champion, is Dead



Rep. Julian Dixon

(Dec. 8) Rep. Julian Dixon, long regarded as Congress' leading supporter of Los Angeles' commuter rail system and who represented his West LA district for 22 years, has died.

Dixon died Friday morning in Los Angeles of an apparent heart attack. He recently had told colleagues that he was undergoing minor surgery. He was 66.

"Los Angeles has lost a true giant and a friend with the passing of Congressman Julian Dixon," said CEO Julian Burke. "For decades he led the fight in Congress to secure federal funding for mass transit in the region.

"He had the foresight to realize that Los Angeles needed alternatives to freeways and automobiles if the region were to sustain its economic growth and quality of life in the face of rapid population growth," Burke added. "He championed not only Metro Rail, but also the revamping of bus service for MTA and more than a dozen municipal bus operators in Los Angeles County. His perseverance, leadership and vision will be sorely missed."

Promoted federal aid

Dixon was the ranking Democrat on the House intelligence committee and a key member of the panel that determines defense spending, a position he used to promote federal aid for communities hit by base closings and other defense cuts.

Dixon graduated from Cal State LA and earned a law degree from Southwestern University. He served in the California Assembly from 1972 until 1978. That year he was elected to the first of 11 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He won re-election in November with 84 percent of the vote.

He is survived by his wife, Bettye Lee, and a son, Cary Gordon Dixon.

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