Senate, House Funding for MTA Differs by \$34.25 Million

(July 17, 2001) The U.S. Senate is expected to consider later this week a transportation bill that would include \$26.2 million for MTA projects – an amount that is \$34.25 million short of the amount voted by the House.

The Senate Appropriations Committee recommendation for 2002 transportation funding going to the Senate floor would provide only \$9.2 million for completion of the North Hollywood Extension project, compared with the \$49.6 million approved by the House.

MTA officials are hoping to persuade senators to increase funding for the project close-out before a final vote is taken. Whatever is approved by the Senate, the two bills must go to a House-Senate conference committee to be ironed out.

On other MTA transportation projects, funding figures offered by the two houses of Congress also vary.

The Senate committee voted \$10 million for LA's Eastside light-rail project, while the House approved \$5.5 million. The House voted \$3.35 million for bus and bus-related funding, while the Senate committee is recommending \$5 million.

Both the House and the Senate committee approved \$2 million for the Reverse Commute/Job Access Program.

The House-passed measure also includes \$4 million for LA municipal transit operators, \$2 million for Foothill Transit and \$3.5 million for the Chinatown Intermodal Transportation Center. Back to MTA Report