

Senate, House Vote \$22.9 Mill. for MTA Transit Projects

(Dec. 5, 2001) The United States Senate, on a 98 to 2 vote Tuesday, joined the House in passing a \$59.6 billion transportation bill that will give the MTA \$22.9 million for transit projects. The measure now goes to President Bush for signature.

The MTA's portion of the FY 2002 transportation bill includes \$9.3 million in funding for close-out of the Metro Rail North Hollywood segment. Under the federal government's full-funding agreement, the MTA is owed a total of \$49.7 million for the project.

"We hope to gain the balance of the North Hollywood segment funds either through next year's transportation appropriation or through other efforts in working with Congress," said Claudette Moody, director, Government Relations.

This year's transportation bill also includes \$7.5 million for the Eastside light-rail construction project start-up; \$3.5 million for new Metro Bus purchases and \$2 million for "reverse commute job access" transit services.

Among funding for other area projects, the transportation bill includes \$5 million for Alameda Corridor East. That project, currently under construction, will provide rail connections between the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and freight terminals near downtown Los Angeles.

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