



U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta presents poster-size government check to MTA Board members. Pictured, from left, Tom LaBonge, Deputy CEO John Catoe, Mineta, Zev Yaroslavsky, Gloria Molina, and Beatrice Proo.

### **U.S. DOT Secretary Mineta Delivers \$45 million in Federal Funds to MTA**

By GAYLE ANDERSON

(Sept. 15, 2003) U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta presented MTA Board Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky with federal grants totaling \$45 million in federal money during a news conference Saturday on Patsaouras Plaza.

The grants are earmarked for the purchase of eight CNG articulated buses, estimated to cost \$4.9 million, and the \$39.8 million balance of a federal pledge for the completion of the Metro Red Line.

"This check for nearly \$45 million helps pay for two major transportation improvement programs," said Mineta. "And that will help MTA live up to its critical mission for the people of Los Angeles County. I applaud your efforts."

The funds, symbolized by a poster-size government check signed by Mineta, were received by MTA Board members Yaroslavsky, Gloria Molina, Beatrice Proo and Tom LaBonge.

The MTA Board officials were joined in the presentation by Deputy CEO John Catoe. Following remarks, Secretary Mineta was escorted aboard a ring of CNG buses that lined the plaza. The buses, which served as a backdrop for the conference, were freshly painted with the new design and color scheme that designate different types of service offered by MTA.

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