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## MTA Board Moves to Increase Presence of LASD Fare Inspectors on Metro Blue and Green Line Trains

By RICK JAGER

(May 27, 2003) The MTA Board of Directors has approved a modification to the security contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to add 60 security assistants as fare inspectors on both the Metro Blue and Metro Green Lines during the new fiscal year that begins July 1.

The additional fare inspectors are in response to the success of the current fare inspection program which presently includes 50 fare inspectors that patrol the Metro Red and Metro Gold Lines.

The additional fare inspectors will provide a significant law enforcement presence on the Metro Rail system. They will be able to observe their surroundings for unusual situations and persons as well as perform fare inspection.

The 60 additional fare inspectors will enable deputies for the LASD, whose charge it is to maintain the safety and security of the entire Metro Bus and Metro Rail system, to place their prime focus on preventing crimes including terrorist acts.

A total of 36 fare inspectors will be deployed on the Metro Blue Line (Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles) and 24 fare inspectors for the Metro Green Line (Norwalk to El Segundo).

Cost of the additional fare inspectors is estimated at \$4.7 million for FY05 (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005). The entire security contract with the LASD for FY05 to secure all Metro operated trains and buses is \$49,054,950.

The Board also included \$500,000 in contingency funding to cover emergency security services required for heightened security in light of the recent terrorist acts that occurred earlier this year in Madrid, Spain.

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