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COST Loses Court Bid To Stop Metro Orange Line Construction

By ED SCANNELL

(Aug. 31, 2004) Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David P. Yaffe denied a petition, Monday, for a restraining order to halt construction of the Metro Orange Line.

The petition was filed by John Henning, attorney for COST (Citizens Organized for Smart Transit), a local group opposed to construction of the San Fernando Valley transitway.

"If any court has authority in this matter, it certainly isn't this one," said Yaffe. "It is not within the jurisdiction of this court to issue any order."

Construction resumed last Friday when the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, failed to rule on an earlier petition by COST to stop construction until a study of a Metro Rapid alternative could be completed.

Henning told reporters COST would file another petition with the Court of Appeal in a few days.

Meanwhile, Metro awaits a decision by the California Supreme Court on whether it will hear its appeal of the order to conduct the Metro Rapid study.

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