

[Metro.net](#) (web)**Resources**▶ [Safety](#)▶ [Pressroom](#) (web)▶ [CEO Hotline](#)▶ [Metro Projects](#)▶ [Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)▶ [Archives](#)▶ [Events Calendar](#)▶ [Research Center/
Library](#)▶ [Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)▶ [Metro Classifieds](#)▶ [Retirement
Round-up](#)**Metro Info**▶ [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)▶ [Org Chart](#) (pdf)▶ [Policies](#)▶ [Training](#)▶ [Help Desk](#)▶ [Intranet Policy](#)**Need e-Help?**

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[E-Mail Webmaster](#)

Speaking in Watts, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said federal funding will relieve traffic congestion in the region. Joining him, from left, were Will Kempton, Caltrans; Congresswoman Linda Sanchez; Habib Balian, CEO, Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority; Estaban Torres, California Transportation Commission; Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald; Deputy CEO John Catoe; Long Beach City Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal; Dan Beal, Auto Club of Southern California; LA City Councilmember Janice Hahn; Fran Inman, LA Area Chamber of Commerce; and Christopher Martin, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.



Photo by Juan Ocampo

Los Angeles County Secures \$4.5 Billion in Federal Transportation Funds

- Mayor Villaraigosa, Rep. Millender-McDonald and others celebrate success during Watts event
- See also> [‘Every Dollar L.A. Receives is Important,’ Mayor Declares](#)

By MARC LITTMAN

(Aug. 3, 2005) Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa joined key members of Congress and local and state officials, Wednesday, in detailing Los Angeles County's success in securing an estimated \$4.5 billion in federal funding for highway and transit programs and projects.

This includes \$833 million for specific projects and highway and transit formula funds programmed by Metro. That's an increase over what the region received in the last major U.S. transportation funding measure approved in 1998.

Congress last week passed, and the President soon is expected to sign, a \$286 billion six-year (FY 2004 through FY 2009) federal transportation funding bill.

LA County will gain an estimated \$3.5 billion for maintenance and construction of bridges, highways and other transit facilities, bus purchases, and local transportation programs that help improve air quality.

\$1 billion for highways, transit

Approximately \$1 billion is earmarked for 156 highway and 45 transit projects spread throughout the county.

"This is a great day for Los Angeles," said Villaraigosa, during a news conference at the Metro Blue Line 103rd Street station in Watts. He thanked all 18 members of the local Congressional delegation, particularly Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

The mayor also cited local and state elected officials and the Mobility 21 lobbying coalition led by Metro, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and the Automobile Club of Southern California and other organizations.

'Relieve traffic congestion'

"Working in partnership with Congress, especially our Los Angeles and California delegations, many important transportation projects were funded that will relieve traffic congestion and serve the transit dependent in the region," Villaraigosa said.

Millender-McDonald underscored the mayor's comments.

"To be sure, this transportation bill does not provide the funding levels needed to address all of our nation's critical transportation needs," she said. "However, given our current federal budget constraints, our record deficit spending and our ongoing commitments in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is a good start."

"This bill does provide mobility for millions of people, creates jobs, reduces congestion and improves the movement of our nation's goods," she added. "It will benefit the country and it will certainly benefit all of us in Southern California."