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[Metro History Fact]

1951 Legislation Created Los Angeles MTA – Metro Predecessor

(July 28, 2006) This week in 1951, Governor Earl Warren signed a bill creating the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (LAMTA), the first publicly governed transit planning agency for Los Angeles.

LAMTA initially focused on planning a monorail-based mass transit system to replace what remained of the Pacific Electric and Los Angeles Railway systems.

LAMTA would go on to become the region's first publicly governed transit operator on March 3, 1958, serving Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange counties.

Weak powers and a desire for improved elected representation on its board led to LAMTA's replacement by the Southern California Rapid Transit District in September 1964. SCRTD merged with the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission in 1993 to create the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro).

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