



NEWS

February 9, 1996

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA INVITES ANTELOPE VALLEY AREA TO PUBLIC HEARINGS FEBRUARY 15 TO DISCUSS REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

The MTA has planned two public hearings to obtain ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs in the Antelope Valley area. The Antelope Valley area is eligible to receive a share of California Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for transportation-related projects.

The first hearing is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 15, 1996, at 2 p.m. at Palmdale City Hall, 708 E. Palmdale Avenue, Palmdale. The second hearing will be later the same day, at 7 p.m. at Lancaster City Hall, 44933 N. Fern Avenue, Lancaster. Both sessions will last as long as necessary to allow those who have requested to speak a chance to be heard.

"The Transportation Development Act, passed in 1971, gives areas that are not included in MTA's service area a chance to share in a portion of TDA funds to help pay for local public transit needs," said Joseph E. Drew, MTA interim chief executive officer. "To qualify for funds, an area must demonstrate a real need, which makes public participation so important. We encourage Antelope Valley residents to attend and let us know their needs."

Following the hearing, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the MTA ultimately decides whether there are existing unmet transit needs. If no reasonable "unmet transit needs" are identified, funds may then be used for street and road improvements.

Those unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to the MTA by February 29, 1996. Comments should be sent to MTA Article 8 Hearing Record, P.O. Box 194, Los Angeles, CA 90053, attention Renee Berlin, mail stop 22-03.

For information about TDA funds or the public hearing, call Renee Berlin at (213) 922-3035.

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