



NEWS

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MTA INITIATES CONSTRUCTION IMPACT RESPONSE PROGRAM

MTA CEO Joseph Drew announced details of the Construction Impact Response Program set up to ensure a quick solution for residents and businesses affected by LACMTA construction activities.

The program establishes a Rapid Response Team for all MTA construction projects. The goal is to respond, and to resolve complaints, within 72 hours.

"The Construction Impact Response Program underscores not only our commitment to our partners, but re-affirms our mission to provide optimum service," said MTA Chairman Larry Zarian. "This program is the first of its kind in the country and we are proud to launch it here at the MTA."

Provisions of the program include good faith payments on claims, low interest loans, cost of structural repairs for limited physical damage, short term rental and mortgage payment support, as well as other limited expenses necessary to deal with the impact of construction activities.

"We're looking for a smarter, faster way to solve problems, without doing a lot of finger pointing," Drew said.

A pre-construction survey consultant will determine areas of possible construction impact for each project. This will identify properties that are tentatively eligible for assistance under the program.

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"In most circumstances," Drew said, "the area of potential impact will be within 100 feet of a project alignment."

To identify such areas, a pre-construction survey consultant will consider the proximity of the project to the construction site, the potential for noise, vibration, and dust from construction, the impact from construction on the physical access to properties, and the pre-construction viability of the business environment in the area.

A mitigation program will be developed for any area that is undergoing construction. MTA will work with elected officials, community members, and business organizations to determine the appropriate level of assistance.

The response program is effective immediately, with \$2 million funding set aside in the current fiscal year budget through June, 1997.

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