



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF LANCASTER TO SPEND \$2.3 MILLION AWARDED BY MTA TO PERFORM DELICATE REPAIRS ON CONGESTED OVERPASS

One of the most clogged arterial roadways in the Antelope Valley will be receiving a major operation in the near future, which will result in more breathing space between vehicles.

The City of Lancaster will receive \$2.3 million from the MTA to make major improvements to the frequently bottlenecked Avenue L overpass near the Antelope Valley Freeway. The improvements will allow the overpass to handle present and future traffic levels. In addition, the road will be able to accommodate traffic from widened roadway sections east and west of the overpass.

Improvements will include widening the overpass from two to seven lanes, modifications of the on-and-off ramps and installation of traffic signals at the northbound freeway off-ramps.

The work is being funded by the MTA's 1997 Call for projects, a program held every two years to determine which of the innovative proposals from 88 cities, Los Angeles County and state agencies to remedy traffic congestion in Los Angeles County are the most deserved of funding. For the 1997 Call for Projects, 414 proposals were evaluated and 157 projects were approved by the MTA Board of Directors last June. A total of \$666.3 was divided between the finalists.

Though clear sailing is on the horizon for thousands of Antelope Valley commuters who rely on the overpass, actual construction will not begin until the year 1998. Project completion is set for August 2000.

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