



# NEWS

February 28, 2002

CONTACT: RICK JAGER/MARC LITTMAN  
MTA MEDIA RELATIONS  
(213) 922-2707/922-2700  
[WWW.MTA.NET/PRESS/PRESSROOM](http://WWW.MTA.NET/PRESS/PRESSROOM)  
E-MAIL: [mediarelations@mta.net](mailto:mediarelations@mta.net)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE METRO FREEWAY SERVICE PATROL CONTRACTS TO AID STRANDED MOTORISTS**

The MTA Board of Directors has approved 12 contracts that will keep the Metro Freeway Service Patrol in operation assisting stranded motorists along various Southland freeways.

MTA's Metro Freeway Service Patrol program consists of 40 different designated freeway segments or "beats" served by 145 tow trucks that patrol over 400 miles of congested freeways during the weekday peak hours and on selected freeway segments during the mid-day and weekends. The program is provided free of charge to those motorists needing assistance.

Eighteen different private contractors perform this service for the Metro Freeway Service Patrol program. The action taken by the MTA Board of Directors approved 12 contracts that were set to expire, at a cost of \$15.8 million.

Statistics show that on more than 70 percent of the assists made, the wait time for Metro Freeway Service Patrol service is less than five minutes. Additionally, according to a UC Berkeley study conducted in October 2000, the Metro Freeway Service Patrol has a benefit cost ratio of almost 15 to 1, the highest benefit cost ratio of any of the other 10 Freeway Service Patrol programs in the state.

More...

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**Freeway Service Patrol**

The Metro Freeway Service Patrol program was started in 1991. To date, it has assisted over 2.6 million motorists. The program is a jointly managed program involving the MTA, CHP and Caltrans. MTA funds the program through local Proposition C sales tax and state highway funds.

The Metro Freeway Service patrol in 2001 provided an average of nearly 30,000 assists per month.

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MTA-026