



# NEWS

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## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY MTA CHAIRMAN RICHARD ALATORRE REQUESTS \$410.5 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDS, INCLUDING \$217 MILLION FOR SEGMENT 3 RED LINE CONSTRUCTION**

MTA Chairman Richard Alatorre will appear before a key House of Representatives transportation subcommittee on April 26 to request a total of \$410.5 million in federal assistance, including \$217 million to help pay for construction of Segment 3 of the Metro Red Line subway project.

In his testimony before the House of Representatives' Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Alatorre cites Los Angeles County's strong need for uninterrupted federal transportation funding assistance for bus and rail capital and operations, especially in the wake of the Jan. 17 Northridge earthquake.

"Los Angeles County has suffered 18 percent of the nation's job loss since the beginning of the recession, and has yet to join the rest of the nation in recovery," Alatorre will tell the Subcommittee. "The recent earthquake has negatively impacted the movement of goods and services in our region, which only exacerbates the problem."

The MTA faces an operating budget deficit of \$126 million for FY 1994-95. The agency has taken numerous actions to erase the deficit, including reducing its administrative staff by 20 percent, reducing the use of outside service contracts and establishing a hiring freeze.

The MTA also is considering raising bus and train fares and trimming service. A public hearing was held in Los Angeles April 23 to inform the public of possible fare scenarios and service changes.

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