

May 13, 1996

Contact: ROBERT CALIX/JIM SMART MTA PRESS RELATIONS 213-922-2702/922-2700 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA SCHEDULES TWO COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS TO REVIEW DESIGN CONCEPTS FOR THE SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD TRANSIT PARKWAY STUDY

The MTA has scheduled two community workshops for the public to review the design concepts developed for the Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Study area.

"These workshops are part of MTA's ongoing efforts to involve the impacted communities in the decision-making process of all our projects. I invite the public affected by this study to participate and provide their input during this open house forum," said Larry Zarian, MTA Board Chairman.

The first workshop will be held between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 1996 in the Student Cafeteria of Emerson Middle School located at 1650 Selby Avenue in Los Angeles. The second workshop is scheduled between 2:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 1996 in the South Wing Meeting Room of Beverly Hills City Hall located at 455 N. Rexford Drive in Beverly Hills. Public parking will be available at both locations.

More

Patti Helm, Project Manager on the Westside Area Team, stated "It is crucial to the success of this project that we solicit and receive input from affected communities every step of the way. The MTA is committed to reaching as many people as we possibly can—from targeted meetings with residential and business stakeholders to providing information through mass mailings."

The Project Refinement Study will address improvements to the Santa Monica Boulevard Corridor between the San Diego Freeway and the Beverly Hills city limits at Moreno Drive. The Study will assess how to improve traffic flow, safety and transit service along the corridor while, concurrently, improving sidewalk conditions for pedestrians, the visual aesthetics of the corridor, and preserving the residential character of adjacent neighborhoods.

The workshops are organized in the form of an open house permitting the public to ask questions and provide feedback about specific concepts and alternatives in an informal setting.