



NEWS

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVES INCREASE OF METRO RAIL FUNDING FOR SEGMENT 3 TO \$90 MILLION

By a vote of 403 to 2, the U.S. House of Representatives has approved \$90 million in funding for the Metro Red Line Segment 3 project for Fiscal Year 1997.

This is an increase of \$5 million over the amount allocated for the previous fiscal year. The federal funding will be used for construction of the North Hollywood, East Los Angeles and Mid-city extensions of the Red Line.

"We are extremely gratified to see this bi-partisan vote of confidence in the MTA's Red Line construction program." said MTA Chairman Larry Zarian. "It clearly demonstrates that Congress agrees that a rail transportation network is vital to the future of the Los Angeles basin."

The House vote came one week after Chairman Zarian and Joseph E. Drew, MTA Chief Executive Officer, met with leading members of the lower house to outline new practices and procedures in rail construction the MTA has instituted to assure improved performance, safety and quality on all projects.

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“We want to give special thanks to the leadership of the Southern California congressional delegation, particularly Representatives Julian Dixon, David Dreier, Ron Packard, Jerry Lewis, Xavier Becerra, and Esteban Torres for their steadfast support of the MTA funding package,” added Zarian. “Without bipartisan efforts of our delegation and other key legislators on the House Appropriations Committee, today’s extremely satisfying result would not have been possible.”

Drew noted, “In addition to the \$90 million for Metro Rail, the funding measure also includes \$6.5 million for the Advanced Technology Transit Bus project, \$1.5 million more than authorized in the previous fiscal year.”

The funding legislation now moves to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation for consideration after the Fourth of July congressional recess.

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