

Feb. 11, 1996 CONTACT: MARY ANN MASKERY/ JIM SMART MTA MEDIA RELATIONS (213) 922-2736/922-2700 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA INVITES CATALINA ISLAND RESIDENTS TO PUBLIC HEARINGS FEB.18, TO DISCUSS REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

The MTA will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, Feb.18 1997, to gather ideas and suggestions for meeting public transportation needs in the Santa Catalina area.

The hearing will start at 7 p.m. and last until the last speaker or until 9 p.m., at the Catalina Justice Court, 215 Sumner Avenue, Avalon.

The City of Avalon and the County of Los Angeles are eligible to receive a share of California Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 8 funds for transportation-related projects. The Transportation Development Act, passed in 1971, provides funds for cities that are not included in MTA's service area. Public hearings are held to determine if there are transportation needs that can be met with TDA funds.

Following the hearing, and after receiving input from the Hearing Board and Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the MTA will decide if unmet transit needs exist. If there are none, funds may be used for street and road improvements.

Those unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to the MTA by March 4,1997. Comments should be sent to the MTA Article 8 Hearing Record, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Attention: Susan Richan (mail stop 99-22-8). For information regarding TDA funds or public hearings, contact Susan Richan at (213) 922-3017.

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Metropolitan Transportation Authority • One Gateway Plaza • Suite 1900 • Los Angeles • CA • 90012-2932 • 213 • 922-2700 CM577EH1096