

July 31, 1997

CONTACT: RICK JAGER/JIM SMART
MTA MEDIA RELATIONS
(213) 922-2707/922-2700
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA BOARD ELECTS GARDENA CITY COUNCILMAN JAMES CRAGIN AS SECOND VICE CHAIR OF THE MTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The MTA Board of Directors today appointed James Cragin to serve as the Second Vice Chairman of the MTA Board of Directors.

Cragin, a retired insurance claims adjuster with Carl Warren and Company, serves as one of four City Selection Committee appointees to the 13-member MTA Board of Directors. He is also vice chair of the operations committee.

Cragin has been a member of the Gardena City Council since 1982.

He also has served on the former Los Angeles County Transportation

Commission's Citizen's Advisory Committee for 12 years, serving as their chairman in 1980.

He has served on the South Bay Corridor Steering Committee, is past president of the South Bay Cities Association and is first vice president of the Independent Cities Association. He was a fervent advocate of Propositions A and C, the county-wide half-cent sales tax measures earmarked for public transportation.

Cragin is a member of the League of California Cities and the Independent Cities Association, and was the first chairman of the Gardena Citizens Advisory Committee, a post he held for four years.

"It is my hope that together with Mayor Riordan of the City of Los Angeles, Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, representing the County of LA and my fellow colleagues on the MTA Board that we can work effectively with the new CEO and restore integrity and improve morale at the MTA," said Cragin.

More...

The MTA provides regional and local public transit services in more than 80 cities in Los Angeles County. Additionally, Metro Bus routes extend into San Bernardino, Orange and Ventura counties. MTA carries an average of 1.1 million boarding passengers a day on a bus fleet of 1,800 buses.

MTA also operates the Metro Blue Line light rail service from Los Angeles to Long Beach, carrying more than 46,000 riders each weekday; the Metro Red Line subway system (35,500 riders a day), and the Metro Green Line (18,500 riders a day).

###