



NEWS

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SIGNALS AT OVER 100 VALLEY INTERSECTIONS TO BE UPGRADED; OTHER CALL FOR PROJECTS PROPOSALS APPROVED BY MTA BOARD

A \$4.5 million traffic signal resynchronization project encompassing 37 square miles is among the San Fernando Valley traffic improvement plans that will receive Call for Projects funding, following MTA Board approval Wednesday.

"The integration of 109 intersections bisecting Granada Hills, North Hills and Van Nuys to the Automatic Traffic Systems and Control system along this San Diego Freeway corridor will substantially reduce the daily delays encountered by motorists," said Interim MTA CEO Linda Bohlinger.

Other San Fernando Valley projects and funds approved include: \$2 million for the Warner Center Transit Hub where bus riders will be able to easily transfer to other bus lines or Smart shuttles serving the Valley; \$283,000 for a bike station at the Chatsworth Metrolink Station; and \$435,000 to extend Mason Avenue, also in Chatsworth, between Nordhoff and Plummer streets.

The MTA's Call for Projects program occurs once every two years and determines which of the hundreds of transportation improvement project proposals submitted by 88 cities, Los Angeles County and state agencies are capitalized. This particular Call for Projects saw 414 proposals vie for approximately \$666.3 million. In all, 157 were approved following a four-month evaluation and ranking period involving MTA planning staff, a technical advisory committee and the MTA Board.

A little more than 50 percent of the funding comes from monies raised from Proposition C (the Los Angeles County one-half cent sales tax), with the

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balance from the state and some federal government.

To be eligible, a public entity generally must provide transportation services such as build streets and highways or operate a public transit system.

Criteria used in evaluating applications include determining regional significance and project benefit, cost effectiveness (and local funding match), land use and environmental compatibility, project need, project readiness, and benefits to the overall transit system.

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