

MOTION BY

MAYOR ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA & SUPERVISOR YVONNE BURKE

Item 22 – Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department
Executive Management and Audit Committee

October 20, 2005

WHEREAS growing local businesses in Los Angeles County serves the broader public interest of creating economic self-sufficiency in all communities in Los Angeles and will positively contribute to the regional economy; and

WHEREAS public agencies have a responsibility to provide equal opportunities for participation in public works projects and contracting; and

WHEREAS the MTA must be committed to opening doors for small, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses whenever possible; and

WHEREAS the MTA must set aside appropriate funding to communicate contracting opportunities at the agency; and

WHEREAS funding for the MTA Diversity and Equal Opportunity Department has decreased by 9% since Fiscal Year 2002 and outreach has decreased 94% to only \$3,000 in the current fiscal year

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the MTA Board direct the CEO to:

1. Allocate \$42,000 in Board Contingency Funds for outreach activities to small and disadvantaged businesses for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2005-06; and
2. Restore funding in future years and include a minimum of \$65,000 for outreach activities to small and disadvantaged businesses through the Support Services Business Unit in the Fiscal Year 2006-07 budget; and
3. Review the best practices for SBE and DBE outreach at public agencies in Los Angeles County – including consultation with the Transportation Business Advisory Council (TBAC) – and report back in 90 days with additional recommendations for strengthening the MTA's outreach program.