

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL June 28, 1998

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Oppose Senate Bill 1276 (Hayden and Murray) - *Transportation: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached resolution opposing Senate Bill 1276 (Hayden and Murray) - *Transportation: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation.*
2. Authorize the Mayor to send letters to the appropriate authorities stating Pasadena's position.

BACKGROUND

On February 29, 1999, Senator Hayden introduced Senate Bill 1276, *Transportation: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation.* On June 10, 1999, State Senators Hayden and Murray amended and submitted SB 1276 as an urgency bill. This new Senate Bill 1276 would mandate that the MTA reprogram all necessary funds to comply with the March 9, 1999 Special Master ruling requiring the MTA to purchase 532 additional buses and hire necessary drivers and maintenance personnel. The bill would prohibit the MTA from spending funds for any programs other than to purchase buses and repair streets until the federal court-appointed Special Master agrees that there are sufficient funds to meet requirements of the Consent Decree to improve bus service.

Staff recommends opposing Senate Bill 1276 because it effectively changes the MTA's statutory responsibilities and priorities under the State Public Utilities Code. The regional bus system would be the only priority at the MTA. All other programs such as rail including the Pasadena Blue Line, highway services, municipal bus services, soundwalls and other projects in the MTA Call for Projects would be drastically diminished, or eliminated completely.

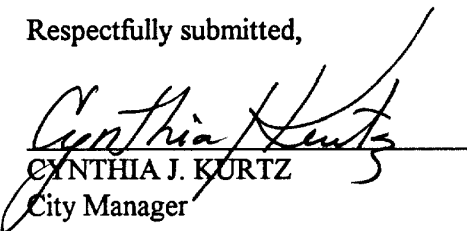
The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments voted at their June 17, 1999 meeting to oppose this bill. In addition, the MTA strongly opposes Senate Bill 1276.

A hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee has been scheduled for July 6, 1999. Because it is an urgency bill, if adopted SB 1276 would go into effect immediately.

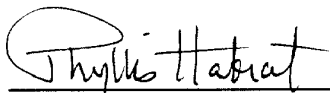
FISCAL IMPACT

Opposing Senate Bill 1276 could potentially prevent Pasadena from losing in excess of \$90 million in funding for vital transportation projects. These projects include the Pasadena Blue Line, Dial-A-Ride, and recommended projects in the MTA Call for Projects such as *Operations for three Alternative Fuel Shuttles, Bicycle Detection System - Allen Avenue, and Transportation System Improvements - Lake Avenue/Del Mar Boulevard.*

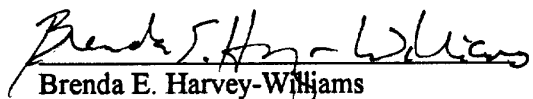
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

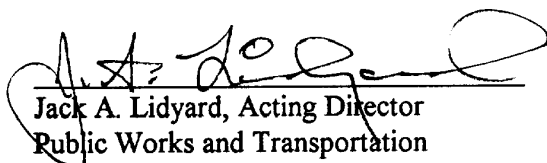
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