



Proposed South Bay transit center near LAX gets \$1.45M grant

By Nick Green Staff Writer

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A proposed South Bay transit center near Los Angeles International Airport has received a \$1.45 million federal grant, officials said Wednesday.

The money, which requires a 20 percent local match, will be used in the second phase of a three-phase project to design the station at Aviation and Century boulevards, said Roderick Diaz, the project manager with the county's Metropolitan Transit Authority.

That phase, which moves the project from the conceptual stage it's now in to a preliminary engineering phase, will begin this fall and last about a year.

The total cost to design what's called an Intermodal Transit Center is \$11 million, Diaz said. The transit center will be the connecting hub for two light rail lines - the Green Line and the Crenshaw/LAX Line - buses and a "people mover" to take people into the airport.

Construction on the \$1.7 billion transit center is tentatively scheduled to occur between 2012 and 2018, Diaz said.

"This grant certainly helps us meet those targets," he said.

The U.S. Department of Transportation grant was announced by Rep. Jane Harman, D-El Segundo.

"The grant is great news for the South Bay, which is finally on its way to being connected by rail to LAX," she said.

- Nick Green

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