

**Washington, DC** – Today, the San Antonio Congressional Delegation announced that the San Antonio VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority will receive over \$30 million in funding. The funding is provided under the Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Representatives Henry Cuellar (TX-28), Charles Gonzalez (TX-20), Ciro Rodriguez (TX-23), and Lamar Smith (TX-21) announced VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority will receive \$30,234,746 to purchase buses and additional equipment.

"This is one more way that the economic recovery bill is creating jobs and strengthening our economy in San Antonio and Bexar County," said **Congressman Cuellar**. "In these challenging economic times, these funds will help strengthen this transportation system and help employees get to work, help families get to the store, and help drive our economy forward."

"I am proud to announce over \$30 million in Stimulus funding for VIA. These transportation investments will yield dividends for our community for years to come," said **Rep. Gonzalez**. "The innovative investment in public transportation will help fight traffic congestion, create local jobs, and most importantly, strengthen our economy as a direct result of the public transportation opportunities it provides our residents."

The funds will be used to purchase twenty-eight 40' busses and one 35' bus for replacement purposes. The money will also be used to acquire mobile fare collection, support and communication equipment. Fifty three bus stops in the downtown area will also be upgraded with new signs, kiosks, and shelters.

"Funding our public transportation infrastructure is a sound investment in our community," said **Congressman Rodriguez**. "Providing smart and economical means of transportation will benefit the people of Bexar County and surrounding areas."

"This is a worthy use of stimulus funds and will significantly enhance the transportation infrastructure of San Antonio, our economy, and overall quality of life," said **Congressman Smith**.

In addition, the Texas Department of Transportation will receive \$7,588,110 to be used to rehabilitate/renovate intercity bus facilities, purchase two full-size revenue vans and one 45ft. intercity over-the-road revenue coach.

As authorized by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users of 2005 (SAFETEA-LU), the FTA supports locally planned and operated public mass transit systems throughout the United States.

