

On May 22nd the Los Angeles MTA will make a decision: will it reject a proposal to drastically raise the cost of bus passes, eliminate the 90-cent token and the 25-cent transfer? Or will it steal \$50 million *more* from seniors, students, garment workers, security guards and half a million bus riders? To KNX the proposal is fair. To the Bus Riders Union it reeks of racism and class bias.

Remember, in 1994 the MTA tried to raise the fare and eliminate *all* passes. The BRU sued, and the courts stopped MTA saying MTA was trying to subsidize rail construction on the backs of poor and minority bus riders.

And history repeats itself. Just a month ago, the MTA gave itself a \$300 million loan with *local* tax money for the Eastside Rail and the San Fernando Busway. Now it wants to raise the fare. So let's get it straight: this fare increase is *not* about buses, it's about more rail subsidies.

Mayor Hahn controls 4 of the 5 votes needed to defeat this fare hike. We urge him and all MTA board members to vote 'No' on Thursday, May 22nd, 9:30 am at MTA headquarters in Downtown LA. Will *you* be there to stand up against transit racism and class bias?