



Billions of Taxpayer Dollars at Stake for Local Transit Authorities Under Istook Amendment

Under the Istook Amendment, which went into effect on February 2 of this year, the government can withhold more than **\$3.1 billion** in capital grants to local transit authorities if they accept and display advertisements criticizing the “War on Drugs.” Although the challenge to this law, *ACLU v. Mineta*, involves only the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Istook Amendment applies to every local transit system in the United States that relies on federal funding.

The figures below, taken directly from the 2004 Department of Appropriations bill, show just how much crucial funding is at stake for local transit authorities.

LOCAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY PROJECTS	FEDERAL FUNDING IN TAXPAYER DOLLAR STAKE
Atlanta, Georgia, Northwest Corridor	\$40,000,000
BART San Francisco Airport (SFO), California, Extension Project	\$100,000,000
Birmingham--Transit Corridor, Alabama,	\$3,500,000
Boston, Massachusetts, Silver Line Phase III	\$2,000,000
Charlotte, North Carolina, South Corridor Light Rail Project	\$12,000,000
Chicago, Illinois, Metro Commuter Rail Expansions and Extensions	\$52,000,000
Chicago, Illinois, Ravenswood Reconstruction,	\$10,000,000
Chicago, Illinois, Transit Authority, Douglas Branch Reconstruction	\$85,000,000
Dallas, Texas, North Central Light Rail Extension,	\$30,161,283
Denver, Colorado, Southeast Corridor LRT (T-REX)	\$80,000,000
East Side Access Project, New York, Phase I	\$75,000,000
Euclid Corridor Transportation Project, Ohio	\$11,000,000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Tri-Rail Commuter Project	\$18,410,000
Hawaii and Alaska Ferry Boats	\$10,296,000
Houston Advanced Metro Transit Plan, Texas	\$8,000,000
Integrated Intermodal project, Rhode Island	\$3,000,000
Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Commuter Rail Extension, Wisconsin	\$3,250,000
Las Vegas, Nevada, Resort Corridor Fixed Guideway, MOS	\$20,000,000
Little Rock, Arkansas, River Rail Streetcar Project	\$3,000,000
Maine Marine Highway	\$1,550,000
Memphis, Tennessee, Medical Center Rail Extension	\$9,247,588
Minneapolis, Minnesota, Hiawatha Corridor Light Rail Transit	\$74,980,000
Minneapolis, Minnesota, Northstar Corridor Rail Project	\$5,750,000
New Orleans, Louisiana, Canal Street Streetcar Project	\$23,291,373
New York, Second Avenue Subway	\$2,000,000
Newark, New Jersey, Rail Link (NERL) MOS1	\$22,566,022
Northern Oklahoma Regional Multimodal Transportation System	\$3,000,000
Northern, New Jersey, Hudson-Bergen Light Rail (MOS2)	\$100,000,000
Phase II, LA to Pasadena Metro Gold Line Light Rail Project	\$4,000,000
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Schuylkill Valley Metro	\$14,000,000
Phoenix, Arizona, Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit Project	\$13,000,000

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, North Shore Connector	\$10,000,000
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Stage II Light Rail Transit Reconstruction	\$32,243,442
Portland, Oregon, Interstate MAX Light Rail Extension	\$77,500,000
Raleigh, North Carolina, Triangle Transit Authority Regional Rail Project	\$5,500,000
Regional Commuter Rail (Weber County to Salt Lake City), Utah	\$9,000,000
Salt Lake City, Utah, Medical Center LRT Extension	\$30,663,361
San Diego, California, Mission Valley East Light Rail Transit Extension	\$65,000,000
San Diego, California, Oceanside-Escondido Rail Project	\$48,000,000
San Francisco, California Muni Third Street Light Rail Project	\$9,000,000
San Jose, California, Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor	\$2,000,000
Scranton, Pennsylvania, NY City Rail Service	\$2,500,000
Seattle, Washington, Sound Transit Central Link Initial Segment	\$75,000,000
South Shore Commuter Rail Service capacity enhancement	\$1,000,000
Stamford, Connecticut, Urban Transitway & Intermodal Transportation Center Improvements	\$4,000,000
Tren Urbano Rapid Transit System, San Juan, PR	\$20,000,000
VRE Parking Improvements, Virginia	\$3,000,000
Washington, DC/VA Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Project	\$20,000,000
Washington, DC/MD, Largo Extension	\$65,000,000
Western North Carolina Rail Passenger Service	\$1,000,000
Wilmington, Delaware, Train Station Improvements	\$1,500,000
Wilsonville to Beaverton, Oregon, Commuter Rail	\$3,250,000
Yarmouth to Auburn Line, Maine	\$1,000,000