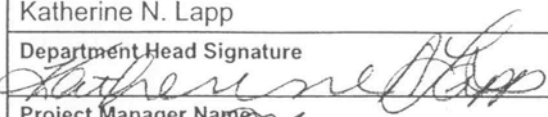
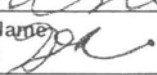
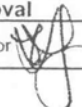
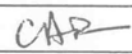
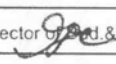


Staff Summary

Subject July 2003 Financial Plan Update/2004 Preliminary Budget
Department Executive Director
Department Head Name Katherine N. Lapp
Department Head Signature 
Project Manager Name Gary G. Caplan 

Date July 30, 2003
Vendor Name
Contract Number
Contract Manager Name
Table of Contents Ref #

Board Action					
Order	To	Date	Approval	Info	Other
1	Finance	7/30	X		
2	Board	7/30	x		

Internal Approvals			
Order	Approval	Order	Approval
3	Executive Director 		Civil Rights
	Chief of Staff	2	Legal 
1	Director of Bud. & Fin. Mgt. 		IST&P
	Procurement		Other

Narrative

PURPOSE:

To seek authorization of the MTA Board to disseminate the July 2003 Financial Plan and Preliminary 2004 Budget and related materials in conformance with the recently adopted MTA Budgeting procedures and to submit to the State these and related materials required for the "17-A" report.

DISCUSSION:

In May 2003, the MTA Board approved new budgeting and financial reporting procedures applicable to MTA and all of the operating agencies in order "to maintain public confidence in the MTA...increase the clarity of MTA finances and provide greater public access to this information." These procedures require that, "(i)n July of each year, the Executive Director will submit to the MTA Board a preliminary budget for the next year. The preliminary budget will also be transmitted to the Governor, the State Legislature, the Mayor of New York City and the County Executives of the seven counties for review and comment." The procedures further state that, "(a)ll budget documents with supporting detailed material will be available to the public and posted on our website (www.mta.info). These new procedures will be applied to the operating budget only because the MTA's Capital Plan is governed by extensive existing statutes."

The July materials are the first step of the new process that will be followed by presentation of an Executive Budget and Four Year-Financial Plan in October 2003, and Board Adoption of the 2004 Budget in December 2003. The purpose of the July presentation is to: (1) present MTA and Agency staff proposals to the MTA Board;(2) begin the process for the MTA Board to assess and determine fiscal priorities and directions to be incorporated into the next year's budget and related multi-year financial plans; (3) authorize MTA staff to publicly disseminate the staff proposals for comment; and (4) direct Agencies to use the updated 2003 Mid-Year Forecast in the regular monthly reporting of actuals to the Board for the remainder of 2003.

The materials presented for review and dissemination are: (1) a Summary of the MTA-wide Financial Plan Update for 2003 and 2004; (2) supporting data for the MTA-wide Financial Plan; (3) Agency budgets and supporting data for the 2003 Midyear Forecast and 2004 Preliminary Budget; and (4) the detailed MTA-wide Financial Plan ("SuperSpreadSheet"). These materials, along with related materials, would also be submitted to the State as required by Section 17-A of the State Transportation Law.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board authorize staff to disseminate the attached materials as detailed above. In addition, it is recommended that the Board direct Agencies to use the 2003 Mid-Year Forecast in the regular monthly reporting of actuals to the Board for the remainder of 2003.