

Leaders Named for Transit Bond Drive

Top-level community support for the \$2.5 billion rapid transit bond issue on the Nov. 5 ballot was assured today with the appointment of a Finance Committee chairman, treasurer, and five co-chairmen. The announcement was made by Ernest J. Loebbecke, general chairman of the Citizens Committee for Rapid Transit and president of The TI Corp.

Serving with Loebbecke as co-chairmen will be Mrs. Valley Knudsen of Los Angeles Beautiful; Los Angeles Postmaster Leslie Shaw; Sigmund Arywitz, executive secretary of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO; Joseph N. Mitchell, president of Beneficial Standard Life Insurance Co.; and Superior Court Judge Carlos Teran.

The Finance Committee will be headed by Eary Clark, president of Occidental Life Insurance Co. M. J. Dahlem of Price-Waterhouse will serve as treasurer.

LOEBBECKE said that the campaign for the bond issue will involve every segment of Los Angeles County. A

200-man group to work with Loebbecke and the officers of his committee is now being organized. Their names will be announced soon, Loebbecke stated.

"I am firmly convinced that if Los Angeles is to avoid economic stagnation and traffic paralysis, this \$2.5 billion bond issue must be passed Nov. 5," Loebbecke said. "It's as important as our next breath."

"Los Angeles is at the crossroads — either the voters approve the bond issue, or we face an even more critical problem at a later date, when construction costs go even higher. Without the system, already designed and engineered, smog and traffic congestion will become intolerable," Loebbecke said.

THE BOND issue will be financed by a 1/2-cent increase in the Los Angeles County sales tax rate. This will produce revenue to pay for a high-speed, 89-mile, five-corridor rapid transit system radiating out to the most heavily populated sections of the county.

"We feel that the sales

tax method of raising the required capital is broad-based and equitable," Loebbecke said. "It avoids putting an additional burden on the property owner, and short-time residents and tourists will also help to pay for it."

The Los Angeles business executive said benefits of the system will more than offset costs. He stated that congestion would be eased, smog reduced, property values increased, and employment stabilized.

"FOR EVERY dollar spent on the project, the community will realize \$1.87 in benefits," Loebbecke said. "Travelers will save millions in car upkeep and parking charges. Businessmen will find an improvement in the labor supply. Real estate values will appreciate because of greater accessibility to industrial and commercial sites."

The Citizens Committee chairman reported this was confirmed by separate studies conducted by the Stanford Research Institute and an independent consulting firm.

CHP Reports Increase in Drunk Driving Arrests

Capital News Service SACRAMENTO — California Highway Patrol Commissioner H. W. Sullivan has reported the patrol made 3,351 drunk driving arrests during July for an increase of 11.3 per cent above the figure for the same month in 1967.

The commissioner said a trend established in the early months of the year is continuing. He reported 25,201 drunk driving arrests

in the first seven months of 1968, compared with 21,412 during the same period of 1967, a 17.7 per cent increase.

Sullivan also reported accidents took the lives of 391 people in the state during July, down from 435 persons who died in traffic accidents in July of 1967.

Total traffic deaths for the first seven months of 1968 reached 2,631, compared with 2,599 for the same period last year.

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