



OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

ROOM 201
STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

DANIEL W. HYNES
COMPTROLLER

October 25, 2007

The Honorable Rod Blagojevich
Illinois State Governor
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Blagojevich,

I am writing regarding your administration's intentions concerning completion of the \$91 million Regional Transportation Authority/Chicago Transit Authority relief package that the RTA accepted on September 14, 2007.

As you are aware, our office issued payments for \$37,318,100 to the RTA/CTA on September 20 as part of the agreement approved by the Board and as authorized by the Illinois Department of Transportation. It was our office's understanding, based on both your public statements and discussions with your staff, that an additional \$54 million would be disbursed in two installments within the following two weeks as part of an additional advance of scheduled Section 225 paratransit payments to the RTA.

In anticipation of that action and in recognition of the gravity of the matter at hand, the Office of the Comptroller has since maintained sufficient cash balances in the General Revenue Fund to honor that obligation immediately upon receipt of the request for payment from the Department of Transportation. To date we have received no such request or any response from your staff to a recent inquiry on the issue.

I would greatly appreciate information on the status of these payments as soon as possible in order to appropriately plan and schedule for other obligations. At this point in the fiscal year, the state's backlog of unpaid bills exceeds \$1.6 billion dollars and the scheduled repayment of the \$1.2 billion Hospital Assessment loan must be made within the next 15 days. Let me stress that my office still intends to honor the RTA obligation immediately, but obviously, the state's ability to make other payments has been impacted by this situation.

Your prompt cooperation and assistance on this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Hynes
Daniel W. Hynes
Comptroller