

U. S. Department of Transportation news:



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TALKING POINTS FOR U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS CONFERENCE, QUALITY INN, PENTAGON CITY, FEBRUARY 28, 1980

The priorities of the Department of Transportation can be described in two ways--programmatically, the what of our efforts, and thematically, the how and why that guide those efforts.

Our programmatic priorities represent the continuation of efforts that have been underway during the life of this administration:

- * enactment and implementation of energy conservation legislation and program
- * truck and rail regulatory reform
- * efforts to support a rational restructuring of the mid-West railroads
- * new highway and transit legislation and orderly decisions on projects being developed (or contested) in the field
- * continued emphasis on air safety as the industry adjusts to deregulation
- * continued commitment to safe, environmentally sound, fuel efficient auto travel
- * vigilance in responding to emergencies where we can be of service
- * continued commitment to equal opportunity and advancement for all

Just as important as our continuing commitment to these programs are the values that drive our interest in them:

- * the need for conservation, both of energy, capital and natural resources; to eliminate waste and to reward and promote efficiency

- * the need to address several problems with each solution; to tie issues together for strategies rather than one-dimensional approaches
- * the need to look ahead; to anticipate problems before they develop, to see change as an opportunity by getting out in front of it.

If we are guided by these recognitions, we will serve our constituents well. We will then be using transportation as an integrating tool in shaping the country in the 80's--making America more efficient and less wasteful; re-invigorating the cities; cleaning up the air; boosting our ability to compete in the world economy.

DOT can be a leader in all these areas if our programs and practices reflect these values. Our ultimate test is one of service, to the public and to the country, to help transportation produce a better America, and the promise of a better future for all.

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