City officials of Wichita Falls, Texas, with the help of a \$135,848 grant from the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, will conduct technical studies to determine if and how it should operate a public mass transit system.

The Wichita officials feel that its present mass transit system, provided by a private corporation, Wichita City Lines, Inc., is not adequate to meet community demands. The total cost of the studies is estimated at \$212,210 with the balance of the funds being provided by the city.

The city officials insist that there is a strong need for improved public transit to fill three basic needs: transportation for residents of low income areas to places of employment; transportation to and from Sheppard Air Force Base for military personnel and civilian employees; and transportation for school children lacking alternate means.

The project will provide a basis and serve as a guide for the capital improvements and operational changes needed to implement a comprehensive public mass transit system for the Wichita Falls urban area.

For further information: Mr. L. Jack Davis

City Manager

City of Wichita Falls, Texas

P. O. Box 1431

Wichita Falls, Texas 76307

Project Number: TEX-T9-1

(all)