

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION APMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20591

JAN 1 7 1969

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY January 3, 1969

Ac ions Section Hq 610A DOT - 0169 963-5105

Three technical study grants, totaling \$424,133, to help finance area transportation planning in Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Massachusetts; and Ann Arbor, Michigan, were announced today by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

The largest grant -- \$400,000 - went to Baltimore's Regional Planning Council (Project No. MD-T9-3) for continued planning of a regional rapid transit system.

The Federal grant will be supplemented by \$200,000 from the State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore and Ann Arundel Counties.

The Regional Planning Council, with the help of \$1.2 million in Federal grants, proposed a six-leg, 71-mile area system.

The latest grant will be used for preliminary engineering and design, utility relocation studies, soil boring and right-of-way planning for the first two legs of the system.

Particular emphasis will be placed on determining the feasibility of extending service into Ann Arundel County.

Rapid transit planning in the Baltimore area is being closely coordinated with other public service improvements such as urban renewal, public housing, open space development and water and sewer extensions.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, of Boston, received a \$13,333 grant (Project No. MASS-T9-1) to help finance a joint highway-transit corridor project.

The grant provides two-thirds of the MBTA's \$20,000 financial participation in the study.

One-half of the MBTA's contribution will be used to underwrite a study of the feasibility of building a 2.7 mile section of the highway-transit facility either on an enbankment or in a depression. The remaining \$10,000 will be used for additional studies relating to the rapid transit portion of the project.

Ann Arbor (Project No. MICH-T9-2) received a \$10,000 grant -- two-thirds of the \$15,000 cost of a study of its bus transit needs.

####