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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$121,000 Federal grant to the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) for studies leading to the development of a regional public transit system in the Detroit area.

"Detroit must place greater emphasis on public transit in solving its problems with traffic congestion," Secretary Volpe said, "if a major slowdown of the economy's mobility is to be avoided."

SEMTA will contribute \$60,500 to the study from funds appropriated by the Michigan Department of Commerce and Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

Earlier studies of the Detroit area have defined six major traffic corridors, all of which need improved public transportation service.

Under an earlier grant from the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, SEMTA explored the feasibility of immediate improvement and possible consolidation of the region's bus service. Through the present grant, it will examine longer range potentialities of an extensive rapid transit system.

MICH-T9-3 Project No.

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