NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Department of Transportation has approved a grant of \$332,000 to evaluate and design a Tracked Air Cushion Vehicle system (TACV) for the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area, Secretary John A. Volpe announced today.

The funds, made available by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will go to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). The study will be carried out jointly by the NCTCOG and the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, Secretary Volpe said. Each of the cities will provide \$83,000 in matching funds.

"This study will evaluate the proposed TACV system between the two cities," the Secretary said. "President Nixon's public transportation assistance program and his technological initiatives are making it possible for us to bring new and exciting technologies from the drawing board to the public."

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal pointed out the grant is an amendment to an ongoing regional and subregional study to define short and long term planning for the area.

"The study will also look at feeder subsystems in each of the downtowns, a connection to the new regional airport and existing bus systems," Administrator Villarreal said. "It includes preliminary engineering, financial analysis and environmental impact analysis."

The study will be carried out over a twelve month period and will recomment a program for implementation of the system. Detailed costs and benefits will be developed during this study.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043 or John J. Roark, P. E., Director of Transportation, North Central Texas Council of Governments, P.O. Box 588, Arlington, Texas 76011. (TEX-T9-5 Amendment No. 2)

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