



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Department of Transportation has approved a demonstration grant of \$295,130 for the City of Anchorage, Alaska, Under Secretary James M. Beggs announced today.

The funds, provided by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will provide two-thirds of the cost of developing a combination fixed route and demand activated transportation system, Under Secretary Beggs said.

"This is an area with limited mass transportation services," the Under Secretary said, "and this demonstration will serve the elderly, handicapped, Indians, Native Eskimos, poor, unemployed, and youth."

"President Nixon and Secretary John A. Volpe have established a high priority for projects that serve the needs of the disadvantaged members of our population, and public transit improvements and demonstrations are particularly important to those millions of Americans who do not have ready access to an automobile," Beggs said.

The demonstration will include several concepts, all of which will be measured and evaluated. Inner-city circulation will be studied, with emphasis on routes that provide resident facilities. Another concept to be demonstrated is the impact of home-to-work and work-to-home service within the area served by the project.

Demand responsive service, which allows portal to portal service within different neighborhoods, will also be demonstrated and evaluated.

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Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal pointed out that the demonstration is being conducted by the UMTA Office of Civil Rights and Service Development. "Our service development activities, where we aid communities in making public transit service more available and more accessible, are an increasingly important part of this Administration's programs," he said.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043. (ALASKA-DMG-1)

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