

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Department of Transportation has awarded a \$20,000 grant to the Tuskegee Institute to study the transportation needs of the City of Tuskegee and Macon County, Alabama, Secretary of Transportation

John A. Volpe announced today.

The study will focus on the needs of the elderly and the poor and a program to meet these needs will be developed.

"There is currently no mass transportation in the City or County," Secretary Volpe said. "This study, which is being funded by our Urban Mass Transportation Administration, could have significant implications for other urban low density areas throughout the nation. This is particularly true of those areas that are gradually shifting from an agricultural economy, such as Macon County, and which lack the services necessary to support increasing urbanization."

The Tuskegee Institute, a private educational institution, is to work with Tuskegee City officials.

The study will:

- -- Identify major residential and activity centers within Macon County, taking future planned developments into consideration.
- Survey and summarize existing travel patterns by trip purpose and time of day.
- -- Analyze data and develop a gross short-range forecasting tool.
- -- Inventory the basic road network for potential use in determining public transit routings.
- -- Develop alternative techniques for providing estimated public transit demand.

-- Evaluate the above to select an economically viable system for subsequent implementation.

For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or the Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama. (UMTA Project No. AL-06-0043).

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