

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY October 2, 1974

UMTA 130-74 Phone: (202) 426-4043

Frank C. Herringer, Administrator of the U.S.

Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation

Administration (UMTA) has announced the appointment of

Franz K. Gimmler as Regional Director, Region III, UMTA.

Gimmler, who becomes UMTA's first Regional Director, heads a pilot program to evaluate the most effective means for the delivery of capital and planning assistance grants authorized by the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964. Region III UMTA, with headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serves the states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia.

Administrator Herringer noted the expanding role of regional staffs since UMTA's field offices were established in 1972. Increased authority at the regional level has facilitated a more effective delivery of UMTA grant funds. The pilot program, initiated this month, is a continuation of the UMTA decentralization process.

In addition to managing the pilot program, Gimmler will oversee all UMTA programs in the region. He will serve as the focal point in the region for the exchange of information on UMTA's programs and will promote a better mutual understanding with UMTA grantees, the public and other Federal agencies. The Director will assist public bodies in the preparation and submission of requests for urban transportation financial assistance. He will undertake project management responsibilities for approved grants, and take legal and civil rights actions as appropriate to the development and management of UMTA activities.

In his new post, Gimmler will coordinate with the Secretary of Transportation's Regional Representative. He will work closely with the Federal Regional Council, State and local entities and other Federal regional officials.

For seven years prior to assuming his present duties, Gimmler held various positions of increasing responsibility within UMTA. Most recently he was Demonstration Program Manager in the Office of Transit Planning.

Gimmler graduated from Yale University in 1957. He also studied at the University of Glasgow, Scotland on a Rotary Foundation Fellowship.

Gimmler, and his wife, the former Madeline M. Schmitt, and two children reside in Havertown, Pennsylvania.

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