



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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Revenue service testing in Chicago of the world's newest rapid rail vehicle will begin tomorrow, the U. S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration announced today. The State-of-the-Art Car (SOAC) two-car train will be unveiled to the Chicago public and press in ceremonies at the Skokie Shops, 3701 Oakton Street, Skokie.

The ceremonies will begin at 11 a.m. Expected to participate are Chicago Mayor Daley, Milton Pikarsky, newly named Chairman of the RTA, and the Honorable Frank C. Herringer, Administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

The State-of-the-Art Car vehicle is designed to incorporate into one set of vehicles the best in available off-the-shelf rail technology. Although the SOAC train being tested on the Skokie Swift line is longer than the cars which are used in center city service, the technology being developed is such that it could be transferred to shorter versions which could be used for the Chicago riding public.

The SOAC train has been thoroughly tested not only at the Department's High Speed Ground Test Center in Pueblo, Colorado, but has logged over 16,000 miles in revenue service testing in New York, Boston, and Cleveland. During passenger service testing, over 250,000 passengers have been carried in comfort and safety. Boeing Vertol Company has acted as Systems Manager for the \$5 billion R&D project.

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

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