



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Tuesday, October 2 has excerpts from a news conference given today in Knoxville, Tennessee by Secretary of Transportation Claude Brinegar. The first excerpt deals with the question of who pays for aviation services; the second with the energy crisis as it relates to transportation.

"Currently, the passengers -- the flying passengers -- through the ticket tax, pay about half the system cost. So that's a fair balance. General aviation (users), through their fuel tax, do not pay anywhere near the costs that were allocated to them. And we have concluded that it is a long run matter -- and I'm not talking about anything right away -- but it is a long run matter that public subsidy to general aviation is probably not warranted. So some way should be found, over a long period of time, to increase the amount of money that is collected from general aviation or to decrease their use of some of the more expensive parts of the system.

"I think that the nation is suddenly coming to realize that energy is a scarce commodity and that oil, which is the commodity that transportation is built around, is particularly scarce in the world. Unfortunately, the surplus that exists is all in the Arab lands and they are learning how to be tough bargainers. We'll have problems, clearly, in getting energy and it will cost more. So this means that we've got to address in this country what the President has called an 'energy ethic' -- and with all seriousness. The 'one-person-one automobile' (concept) that we've kind of built our life around may have to come to a halt. And, to that extent, we may see a slowing down of some of the highway programs, particularly in the urban areas, and an encouragement to use mass transit, which is energy efficient. The country isn't about to run out of energy, but it clearly should start using it more efficiently."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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