



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Wednesday, October 17 has two actualities on concepts of urban transportation, and a story by a department spokesman on new safety inspection standards for heavy vehicles.

First, Deputy Urban Mass Transportation Administrator John Hirten in a Houston Speech today spoke of the need to form new perspectives on approaches to urban transportation, he said...

"The urban transportation system is highly complex and must, by its very nature, include all elements of transportation; it must be intermodal and integrated. In short, we need a new and broader perception of transportation than we have held during the last 25 to 50 years. If we are to achieve a totally integrated system, new and innovative policies must be devised and adopted, and flexible funding and programs developed with maximum freedom for decision and action at the State and local levels.

"Transportation should be viewed as a public utility, whether publicly or privately managed, and must be seen as a powerful tool by which broader goals relating to land use, growth, environment, and social well-being can be implemented. To achieve the full potential, a readjustment of present land use and transportation processes is necessary to remove the institutional separation that now exists."

Next, a story on new safety standards for heavy vehicles.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation announced today that trucks, busses, and trailers weighing more than 10,000 lbs. will be included in recently issued motor vehicle standards. The coverage, as proposed by

the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, will be similar to requirements for automobiles concentrating on braking, steering, suspension, tires and wheels. A four year study including road checks for defects indicated that these areas were responsible for the majority of accidents. The new standards are to be implemented through the states safety inspection programs and will not replace state laws which are more demanding."

This has been the Transportation news report.

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