



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 76-12  
Phone: (202) 462-4043

Twenty-two million dollars are available for the 1976 fiscal year program to improve the mobility of elderly and handicapped persons, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has announced.

The continuing program, authorized by section 16(b)(2) of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, provides for financial assistance to elderly and handicapped persons through eligible private, nonprofit corporations and associations. Revised application procedures were announced on February 5, 1976 by UMTA.

UMTA Administrator Robert E. Patricelli noted the program, which was initiated in fiscal year 1975 already has provided more than \$20 million for 2300 vehicles to more than 1000 nonprofit organizations in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. "The specially equipped vehicles have or soon will be placed in service to provide for the mobility needs of many of the nation's transportation disadvantaged citizens." Patricelli said.

The grant application procedures were revised this year to reflect the concerns and suggestions of states, private nonprofit organizations, and of UMTA following the first year's implementation of the program. Two procedural revisions are especially significant.

The first major revision strengthens planning requirements to assure that these services are recognized as an important element of the overall transit service in each community.

A second major revision requires state assurance that private nonprofit organizations coordinate their proposed service with existing public and private mass transit operators.

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For further information, contact the UMTA field office, the appropriate state agency, or UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043.

## UMTA FIELD OFFICES

### Address

**Region I** Peter N. Stowell, Regional Director, Transportation Systems Center, Kendall Square, 55 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02142, Tel: (617) 494-2055; FTS 837-2055.

**Region II** John K. Taylor, Regional Director, Suite 507, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10007, Tel: (212) 264-8162; FTS 264-8162.

**Region III** Franz K. Gimmler, Regional Director, Suite 1010, 434 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106, Tel: (215) 597-8098; FTS 597-8098.

**Region IV** Doug Campion, Regional Chief, Suite 400, 1720 Peachtree Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30309; Tel: (404) 526-3948; FTS 285-3948.

**Region V** Tom Harvey, Regional Chief, Suite 700, 300 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606, Tel: (312) 353-6005; FTS 353-6005.

**Region VI** Glen Ford, Regional Chief, Suite 9A32, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102, Tel: (817) 334-3738, FTS 334-3738.

**Region VII** Lee Waddleton, Regional Chief, Room 303, 6301 Rock Hill Road, Kansas City, MO 64131, Tel: (816) 926-5053; FTS 926-5153.

**Region VIII** Theodore Weigle, Regional Director, Suite 1822, Prudential Plaza, 1050 17th Street, Denver, CO 80202, Tel: (303) 837-3242; FTS 327-3242.

**Region IX** Dee Jacobs, Regional Director, Suite 620, Two Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111, Tel: (415) 556-2884; FTS 556-2884.

**Region X** F. William Fort, Regional Chief, Suite 3106, Federal Building, 915 Second Avenue, Seattle, WA 98174, Tel: (206) 442-4210; FTS 399-4210.

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