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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA AWARDED
\$1,162,000 FOR DOWNTOWN PEOPLE MOVER

A grant of \$1,162,000 to help finance the preliminary engineering, design and environmental impact of a Downtown People Mover (DPM) in Los Angeles, California, was announced today by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams.

Today's grant and a previous award of \$118,000 bring the total Federal commitment by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) to \$1,280,000 for all work preliminary to actual construction of the proposed \$167 million system.

A Downtown People Mover is made up of driverless vehicles operating on their own right of way--sometimes called a horizontal elevator.

Richard S. Page, UMTA Administrator, pointed to the DPM as an "important means of implementing coordinated land use and transportation programs." He commended local officials on their proposed use of DPM "to stimulate downtown renewal."

The Los Angeles DPM is a proposed 2.7 mile system serving an area from the convention center to Union Station. Approximately 1,800 feet of guideway and one station will be underground. The remaining guideway and 10 stations will be elevated. At the Union Station end of the DPM, buses will connect from the El Monte Busway. Connecting priority bus lanes and facilities are also being proposed at the convention center.

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Los Angeles is one of several cities selected to demonstrate the benefits of a fully automated people mover system in an urban downtown area. The project is intended to show whether relatively simple automated systems can provide a reliable and economical solution to the local circulation problems in congested downtown areas. Such system technology has proven effective in controlled environments such as airports, shopping centers and other similar situations.

A local source for additional information is Mr. Daniel Townsend, City of Los Angeles, Community Redevelopment Agency, Los Angeles, California 90012, (213) 688-7541. (CA-03-0131)

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