



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY
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UMTA 77-25

DOT ASKS, COMMUNITIES TO EXPERIMENT WITH TRANSIT FARES, SERVICE

No-fare public transit service and five other concepts are expected to be tested by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has invited local communities to submit letters of interest with respect to participating in experiments with transit service level and fare policies. The local responses are due May 31, 1977 in UMTA's Office of Service and Methods Demonstrations, which will handle the experiments.

The six demonstration concepts are:

1. systemwide fare abolition with controlled service variations
2. systemwide fare reduction or abolition during off-peak hours
3. central area fare elimination
4. fare incentives as a promotional measure
5. experiments with various controlled service improvements, and
6. UMTA-sponsored independent evaluation of locally-initiated projects.

The principal aim of this research is to provide local decision-makers with an improved ability to predict the outcome of adopting innovative fare and service policies in a variety of operating circumstances, and to assess the suitability of these policies for pursuing local goals. The

between 100 percent and 50 percent. Local communities could finance between 50 percent and 20 percent of the project, depending on the types of UMTA grants.

A Statement of Interest, which has no binding legal authority, should be submitted by May 31, 1977, to: Director, Office of Service and Methods Demonstrations, UMD-20, Urban Mass Transportation Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Information for Communities Interested
In Transit Service Level and Fare
Policies Experiments

It is not the intent of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) that any substantial amount of effort should be necessary for the preparation and submission of a Statement of Interest. UMTA is not at this time requesting a detailed proposal for demonstration funding.

The statement should indicate the preference of the six demonstration concepts. For each concept, the document should briefly indicate any local factors which might make that particular location especially suitable as a demonstration site. It also should indicate the source and amount of local financing.

Along with a capsule description of the transit system, other data, for example, that might be included: annual report of transit system; a copy of the system's most recent Annual Statement of Operations return to the American Public Transit Association, including a financial return prepared to any customary transit accounting system; a system route map, a copy of the current budget and/or action plan, and other relevant documents.

Statements of Interest should be submitted by May 31, 1977, to:

Director, UMD-20
Office of Service and Methods Demonstrations
U. S. Department of Transportation
Urban Mass Transportation Administration
Washington, D.C. 20590

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