

U.S. Department of Transportation

news:



Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY
July 15, 1977

UMTA 77-41
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Light rail transit, now experiencing a rebirth in many U.S. cities, will be the topic of a national conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation in Boston, August 28-31. The conference is open to all interested persons but registration is required.

The conference, sponsored by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will be conducted by the Transportation Research Board in cooperation with the American Public Transit Association. It will explore the development of new light rail systems and will expand the general state-of-the-art theme of last year's conference.

Conference sessions will concentrate on the socioeconomic and technological aspects of the design and operation of light rail transit. Presentations relating to socioeconomic aspects will focus on planning, mode characteristics, economic analysis, demand considerations, evaluation and institutional aspects. Technological sessions will focus on specific design issues in the development process such as operational characteristics, control measures, rights-of-way and vehicle hardware.

This broad range of topics is intended to provide useful information to representatives of all levels of government, transit agencies, metropolitan planning agencies, universities and private organizations concerned with urban public transit issues.

The registration fee is \$50 for those who preregister and \$60 at the door; the preregistration deadline is August 19. For registration information and assistance, contact Marilou Damon, Transportation Research Board, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, telephone (202) 389-6335.

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