



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY  
May 29, 1975

UMTA 75-45  
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U. S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman Jr., today announced a \$273,730 Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant to assist in West Virginia's Transportation Remuneration Incentive Program (TRIP).

The grant is designed to assist State and local authorities in a statewide effort to improve public transportation services generally and in particular to help meet the transportation needs of low income, elderly and handicapped persons.

Secretary Coleman pointed to the TRIP program as "a major effort by all levels of government to improve the living standards of the nation's deprived." TRIP involves cooperation of several Federal agencies, including the Community Services Administration, The Department of Health, Education and Welfare's Administration on Aging, the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration and UMTA, in addition to State and local governments.

The funding is being provided under UMTA's Service and Methods Demonstrations Program to support system design activities, new service development, prototype demonstration designs and the overall TRIP evaluation.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that the project will document this year, data already collected and verified as part of the TRIP management information system as a basis for project evaluation scheduled for the second and third years of the demonstration.

Other UMTA activities include development of operational plans for implementation of transportation in areas where transportation is not

now available, evaluation of a postal bus and health transporter and the development of preliminary plans of area's presently with little or no public transportation.

The postal bus demonstration is patterned after rural postal vans which are in service in Scandanavian countries and Scotland to provide mail delivery and passenger transporting service. In West Virginia there are a number of mail routes served by individuals under contract to the U.S. Post Office which may be suitable for postal bus service. The health transporter would provide transportation to medical facilities from outlying areas.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mrs. Grace Strain, West Virginia Department of Welfare, Charleston, West Virginia 25305, (304) 348-8810. (UMTA Project No. WV-06-0008).



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