

# U.S. Department of Transportation

# news:



Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY  
December 9, 1977

UMTA 63-77  
(202) 426-4043

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN TRANSIT RESEARCH

The U.S. Department of Transportation and the German Ministry of Research and Technology will cooperatively assess the feasibility of cable suspended transportation systems under a contract award announced today by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA).

The \$99,856 contract to N.D. Lea and Associates of Huntsville, Alabama is part of an UMTA Automated Guideway Transit (AGT) Socio-Economic Research Program. N.D. Lea will be assisted in the study by a Hamburg, Germany, transportation consulting firm.

The U.S. and German firms will assess the technical and engineering features, evaluate their performance and determine the public acceptance of the Roosevelt Island Tramway in New York and the Aerobus system in Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Canada.

The Roosevelt Island Tramway connects Roosevelt Island with Manhattan in the heart of New York City. The one-half mile long system serves as a commuter link for the Island's more than 2000 families. It can move as many as 1,500 people in each direction every hour.

The Aerobus is a cable-suspended system developed and tested in Zurich, Switzerland, operated in Mannheim, Germany for six months in 1975 and currently installed at Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Canada.

-more-

Today's announced project comes as a result of a 1976 agreement for joint assessments of automated guideway transit systems between the U.S. Department of Transportation and the German Ministry of Research and Technology. Under the agreement the United States has participated in assessments of the German Cabintaxi, a four-passenger automated transit system operating on a test track in Hagen, Germany and the German Ministry is currently participating in the assessment of the Morgantown, West Virginia, AGT system.

For further information contact the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043.

####

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION  
ADMINISTRATION  
Washington, D.C. 20590  

---

Official Business

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION  
ADMINISTRATION  
DOT 511

FIRST CLASS

