URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE SUNDAY January 6, 1974

UMTA 01-74 Phone: (202) 426-4043

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$1,310,000 to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) to support the transit related elements of the region's FY 1974 Unified Work Program.

In commending the participating agencies concerned with transportation planning in the Washington Metropolitan area, Secretary Brinegar said, "This ambitious 1974 work program is the result of close cooperation and coordination among Federal, local, State and regional agencies of the area. It exemplifies the effort needed in our metropolitan areas to solve the transportation problems which confront us throughout the nation."

The COG, recognized as the area's single recipient agency for UMTA transit planning funds, will continue such previously funded activities as the maintenance of transportation system characteristics, data and land use monitoring procedures, and refine the long-range transportation plan and evaluation processes. Also, it will develop mechanisms for citizen involvement in regional issues and expand citizen information programs.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer pointed out that the program will include a study of the transit aspects in the development of a regional bikeway plan, specifically the identification of bikeway corridors to METRO and then detailed route planning and implementation program. Other considerations of the program include an analysis

of the impact of the METRO system on the public safety needs; evaluation of rail and busway additions to METRO; preparation of a bus operations plan for 1976; determination of a METRO Station access policy for the District of Columbia; analysis of non-METRO corridors in the District; determination of the transportation demands of selected high-growth centers in the District, and evaluation of the impact of METRO transit stations in the Rockville, Maryland area.

The local one-fifth share of the project cost is being provided by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, City of Rockville, Maryland, and the District of Columbia Office of Planning and Management.

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For further information contact the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Harvey Berlin, Program Manager, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 1225 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. (UMTA Project No. IT-09-0033)

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

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