

# U. S. Department of Transportation

# news:



Office of Assistant Secretary for Governmental and Public Affairs

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FIRST DOT/EPA GRANT  
FOR CLEAN AIR PLANS  
GOES TO PORTLAND

The first in a series of planning grants to help urban areas reduce transportation-related air pollution has been awarded to Portland, Oregon's, Metropolitan Service District.

The \$129,050 grant will assist in the preparation of air quality plans and transportation controls needed to enable the Portland area to meet the standards of the Clean Air Act.

The grant was made from funds transferred by the Environmental Protection Agency to DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration. EPA apportioned a total of \$50 million for air quality-transportation grants under the Clean Air Act. An initial \$25 million has been transferred to UMTA, which is administering the grant program.

DOT and EPA in June 1978 announced joint planning guidelines and a single planning procedure to eliminate overlapping activities and establish a single federal decision on local clean air proposals.

"This precedent-setting arrangement integrates the funding of transportation planning designed to improve air quality," UMTA Administrator Richard S. Page said. "The agreement responds to President Carter's request to reduce federal red tape and paperwork by establishing a single administrative policy and procedure rather than duplicate policies and procedures.

"Financial support from these air quality planning grants helps deal with one of the major causes of lung and heart problems in urban areas," said Barbara Blum, EPA Deputy Administrator. "These grants help fulfill President Carter's promise last March to provide assistance under the Administration's Urban Policy for areas earnestly striving to deal with unhealthy air."

A local source for additional information is Mr. Denton U. Kent, Chief Administrative Officer, Metropolitan Service District, 527 S.W. Hall Street, Portland, Oregon 97201. (503) 221-1646. (OR-19-0001).

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