

U. S. Department of Transportation news:



Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE MONDAY
August 11, 1980

UMTA 25-80
Contact: Robert R. Trotter
Tel.: 202-426-4043

THOMAS DOWNS NAMED
UMTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thomas M. Downs has been appointed Executive Director of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, UMTA Administrator Theodore C. Lutz announced today.

In the newly created position, Downs will supervise the 10 regional administrators to ensure prompt and efficient coordination of activities between headquarters and the regional offices.

Downs will provide direction to headquarters managers in the implementation of program management objectives. He will deal with organizational and personnel matters.

In addition, Downs will assume responsibility for the development of regulations, guidelines, directives and other documents which define and interpret all aspects of the urban mass transportation program.

"I anticipate that an executive director will greatly improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our day-to-day operations. Tom Downs has the experience and ability for this new position," Lutz said.

Downs, 37, comes to UMTA after having served as Associate Administrator for Planning in DOT's Federal Highway Administration since November 1978. Before assuming that position, he had been a White House Fellow assigned to DOT.

From 1974 to 1977, Downs, a native of Kansas City, was city manager of Leavenworth, Kan. He had previously held administrative positions in the municipal governments of Little Rock, Ark., and Lawrence, Kan.

Downs received his bachelor's degree from Rockhurst College in Kansas City and holds master's degrees from the University of Missouri and the University of Kansas.

#####

**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

