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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today named the 21 additional cities which will participate in the Department of Transportation's Center City Transportation Project.

They are: Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Missouri; Miami, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Oregon; Providence, Rochester, San Francisco, and Tampa.

The Center City Project, announced March 10, will design and implement improved center city transportation systems specifically for five cities -- Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Pittsburgh, and Seattle.

"With the wide range of cities involved, " Volpe said, "this project provides a unique opportunity to discover common concerns and to direct transportation systems research and development toward solving common problems."

The Center City project will be carried out by a group of consultants headed by Arthur D. Little, Inc., of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The supplemental 21-city project will be directed by Urban America, Inc., of Washington, D.C. Both projects are being done with grants from DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

The 21 cities will be periodically informed of interim results of the Center City project. Their reactions, based on their particular needs, will be incorporated into the main study to develop final concepts.

Working closely with each city, Urban America will define the transportation needs of their urban centers and develop implementation strategies.

Urban America will organize a series of conferences beginning in September as a means for the participating cities to exchange information. Agenda will be shaped by the cities' concerns during the course of the series. This flexibility insures that problems can be confronted and opportunities taken advantage of as they develop.

Additionally, there will be seminars, workshops and symposia for the cities. To provide a framework for these discussions, Urban America will develop a common vocabulary for center city transportation planning. This will be Urban America's primary concern during the project's first months.

Conference findings will be published for wide distribution to city officials and others interested and involved in the problems of urban society.

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