



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced "a broad and innovative research and development effort" to provide improved transportation systems for Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Pittsburgh, and Seattle.

The program is the second phase of the Department of Transportation's Center City Transportation Project. The first phase, completed in June, was a survey of the transportation problems in each city. Phase three will be the implementation of the systems which are developed.

"What is done here," Volpe said, "will also provide examples of what can be done to improve transportation in cities across the Nation."

The project is funded by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA). The work is being done by a group of four consulting firms -- Arthur D. Little, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Real Estate Research Corporation and Wilbur Smith and Associates. A \$1.5 million grant was made last March to begin the project and UMTA has made an additional grant of \$900 thousand to carry the project through phase two.

Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal said that "If there is to be a real prospect of carrying out phase three of the project, there has to be community involvement in the planning process. In each of the five cities we have that involvement."

Villarreal said UMTA would release a report on the phase on findings in about six or eight weeks.

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