



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY A.M.
April 19, 1972

UMTA 72-23
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The Department of Transportation has awarded a \$140,000 grant to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to produce a short-range transit development program for Tampa, Sarasota and New Port Richey, Florida, Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe announced today.

The funds, provided through the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will be matched by a \$70,000 local share. Previous short-range studies for Clearwater and St. Petersburg will be incorporated into the proposed area-wide study for the Tampa Bay region.

Secretary Volpe said he was particularly pleased that the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council intends to begin developing a continuous long-range transportation planning process.

"This is the type of activity we need to have if we are going to carry out President Nixon's goal of placing decision-making in the hands of those who will be affected by transportation projects," Secretary Volpe said.

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal pointed out the study will "examine in detail the needs of the elderly and handicapped for better transit service. This area has a high proportion of elderly and retired who must rely on public transportation as a basic means of personal mobility."

-more-



U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION EXPOSITION
DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ★ MAY 27-JUNE 4, 1972

-2-

Administrator Villarreal stated, "This grant is part of President Nixon's \$3.1-billion, five-year mass transportation assistance program.

"The President has called upon us to write a mass transit success story for the 1970's, and the local commitment of money and planning by the people in the Tampa Bay area proves that the American people agree with this goal," Villarreal said.

-O-

For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or Mr. Norman H. Thompson, Jr., Director, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, 3151 Third Avenue North, Suite 540, St. Petersburg, Florida 33713 (UMTA Project FLA-T9-9).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATION



FIRST CLASS