

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Department of Transportation has approved a technical study grant of \$91,618 to the City of Indianapolis to fund the second year phase of the Indianapolis Unified Planning Program (UPP). The award was announced in Chicago today by Norman Erbe, Regional Representative of the Secretary of Transportation.

Today's grant, to prepare a short-range development program follows a previous UMTA grant of \$75,000 to provide data collection and analysis for short-range improvements. Culminating the proposed three year program will be a long-range transit plan and program.

In addition to the Department of Transportation, the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare, Justice and Housing and Urban Development are contributing funds to this study. "The Unified Planning Program represents a unique challenge to the Federal government to respond to locally defined needs. The program as conceived to provide a single, comprehensive planning program and drawing upon a variety of funding sources, is completely in line with President Nixon's desire to see that those who are most affected by government programs have the most to say about them," Mr. Erbe said.

The funds were made available through the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA). Carlos C. Villarreal, UMTA's Administrator in speaking of the grant said, "The City's entire approach is one of coordination and integration of local and regional planning. The current program will bring transit planning more in line with existing and proposed comprehensive and transportation (highway) planning in the Indianapolis area."

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or David O. Meeker, Jr., Director, Department of Metropolitan Development, 1860 City-County Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. (IN-09-0004)

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