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CLYMER ANNOUNCES GRANT TO GREATER CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Brian W. Clymer, administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), today announced a grant totaling \$140,000 to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) for a study of potential expansion of transportation services at the Tower City Center complex.

"The Tower City Center project is one of the nation's largest public-private ventures. It includes the construction of GCRTA's new downtown transit station as well as a major joint-use shopping mall," Clymer said. "It's a win-win situation for all sides. The public wins by having a new attractive and safer station. The private sector gains by the opening of a major commercial operation in downtown Cleveland with a built-in market of transit commuters."

This study will look at three proposed improvements: passenger accessways between Tower City Center and the new commercial development adjacent to the center; a 1.5 mile trolley shuttle between Tower City Center and the Flats entertainment area; and, possible relocation of Cleveland's AMTRAK station to the Tower City Center.

Non-federal resources for the study in the amount of \$120,000 are also proposed for a total public-private effort of \$260,000. Participants in this study include GCRTA, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the City of Cleveland, and Forest City Enterprises, the developer of Tower City Center.

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"This public-private sector partnership is an important example of the relationship envisioned in the National Transportation Policy (NTP)," Clymer said.

The NTP is a comprehensive strategy to maintain, modernize and expand the nation's infrastructure. Among the approaches it envisions are expanded roles for state and local governments, partnerships between the public and private sectors, and increased investment in research and development to produce new technologies that will advance transportation into the 21st century.

Clymer presented the grant to Ronald J. Tober, general manager of GCRTA, during the grand opening ceremony at the Tower City Station. Clymer singled out for special recognition Governor-elect George Voinovich for his role in getting the project off the ground while he was mayor and to Mayor Michael White for his continued support of transit improvements in the Cleveland area.

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