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Contact: Richard Centner
Tel.: (202) 366-4043

CLYMER ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR A YEAR-LONG PROJECT DESIGNED TO INTEGRATE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Brian W. Clymer, Administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), today announced the award of \$246,000 for a technical assistance project to the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) for a 12-month program designed to integrate services provided by both UMTA and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The project will establish a data base on transportation programs that receive funding from Health and Human Services. The data base and the educational effort are designed to eliminate duplication of HHS-funded transportation programs and those funded by UMTA, an agency of the Department of Transportation. The two departments have been working cooperatively for the past three years, and have developed a DOT/HHS Joint Coordination Council on Human Services Transportation.

Presently, HHS runs specialized programs that provide transportation for the elderly. This project is designed to keep the agencies from duplicating services. HHS, for example, could contract with transportation operators already funded by UMTA to provide services to the elderly, instead of initiating services of their own.

"This project will not only contribute to improved coordination between UMTA and Health and Human Services," Clymer said, "it will also further the objectives of the National Transportation Policy announced by President Bush and Transportation Secretary Samuel K. Skinner in March.

"This year-long effort will give us the information we need to do a better job," he said. "It will help eliminate barriers and allow us to provide transportation for our senior citizens much more efficiently and enhance the quality of their lives by providing them reliable, safe transportation that they so critically need."

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**Urban Mass
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