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**SKINNER EXTENDS SUBURBAN MOBILITY
PROGRAM, CALLS FIRST YEAR A SUCCESS**

Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner today announced a two-year extension of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration's (UMTA) Suburban Mobility Program, calling the initiative's first year "a great success."

The program, begun in January 1988, assists the nation's urban and suburban areas in the development of regional traffic reduction strategies. UMTA provides technical assistance and funding to state and local agencies and non-profit organizations through grants and cooperative agreements.

"Seminars and projects growing out of this program have enabled communities to develop transportation strategies that can work because they have broad support," Skinner said. "Solutions to traffic congestion aren't just imposed by government. They are developed with the cooperation of private businesses and employers."

Skinner said 21 seminars have already been held, with 13 more planned. Attendees have included local elected officials, developers, employers, planning organizations, transit operators, citizen groups, consultants, educators, and state departments of transportation.

"One of the most exciting aspects of the Suburban Mobility Program is that it enables communities to get ahead of the power curve in dealing with mobility problems," Skinner said. "This program can be an important tool in this effort."

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Forty-one projects, representing over \$6.5 million in federal funds, have been initiated as a result of the seminars. Skinner said the grants have been used to develop long-term transportation plans and land use strategies, to establish transportation management organizations, to institute employer-subsidized transportation services, and to implement traffic mitigation ordinances.

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**Urban Mass
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