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**MORE RESPONSIVE TRANSIT SERVICE  
IS GOAL OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PROJECTS**

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has launched a new program focusing on ways to produce more responsive transit service, particularly through development of joint public-private projects.

"UMTA has set aside \$20 million in a Joint Development Challenge Grant Program especially for public-private projects," said UMTA Administrator Alfred A. DelliBovi. "Our intention is to merge the financial resources and marketing expertise of the private sector with public policy objectives and overall transportation strategy for projects that make good sense in local areas."

DelliBovi said the program will also include 20 seminars, to be held later this spring in various locations across the country. The meetings will bring together local business and government leaders and transit officials for frank discussions on ways to enhance the private sector's delivery of transit service.

Seminar participants will discuss development of park-and-ride facilities, construction and rehabilitation of transit stations, and a growing number of innovative strategies that can help solve the worsening traffic congestion in numerous American communities.

DelliBovi said public-private cooperation can lead to such transit improvements as better route alignments and improved system technologies, fully leveraged federal investment dollars, and increased revenues through such income sources as air rights, surface lease rights and benefit assessment districts.

DelliBovi added that improved passenger amenities at stations, terminals, and park-and-ride lots can make transit use more attractive. He cited such examples as restaurants, laundry services, day care centers, and retail outlets such as grocery stores and pharmacies.

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The following cities are being considered for seminars: Los Angeles, Newport Beach (Orange County), San Diego, San Francisco, New York, Houston, Dallas, Portland, Seattle, Miami, Chicago, Boston, Denver, Phoenix, New Orleans, St. Louis, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Washington, D.C.

For further information, contact Administrator DelliBovi, Urban Mass Transportation Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, telephone (202) 366-4040.

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