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UMTA TO AWARD \$71.9 MILLION IN TRANSIT ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced its intent to award more than \$71.9 million in transit assistance grants for 169 projects across the country, including some innovative studies of pressing transit problems.

UMTA Deputy Administrator Alfred A. DelliBovi said the grants would also fund a variety of public transportation projects in non-urbanized areas and would make funds available for programs designed exclusively for elderly and handicapped individuals.

DelliBovi said a total of \$12.8 million will be awarded for special technical studies focusing on major transit system problems such as security of passengers, private sector involvement in new service and unique planning activities.

For example, he said, one study would assess crime and security data for major transit facilities in Michigan, with an eye toward finding alternative sources of funds for improving overall safety of passengers at high crime locations.

Another study, in New Mexico, will identify private sector solutions to new transit activities in the uptown section of Albuquerque by developing marketing and financing plans and evaluating proposals from private operators on servicing the area.

In California, a continuing innovative "rent-a-planner" project is making professional transportation expertise from the San Francisco Bay area metropolitan planning organization available directly to transit operators to prepare plans and evaluate their systems in order to improve productivity and efficiency.

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In Kansas, a special grant through the rural transit assistance program will help prepare a variety of research material for rural providers in the state, including a resource inventory and needs survey, information services, training and technical assistance.

In addition to the planning grants, more than \$22.4 million will be awarded to state agencies for distribution to non-profit organizations which provide transportation services to elderly and handicapped persons. These funds can be used for purposes like the purchase of vehicles designed with special features such as wheelchair lifts and other equipment necessary for transportation of elderly and handicapped persons, and for other capital and administrative costs.

Also, more than \$36.6 million will be awarded for statewide public transportation projects and services in rural and small urban areas. These funds cover capital and administrative costs and planning and operating assistance, with a match by state and local agencies.

A listing of grants approved by state follows:

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SUMMARY OF UMTA GRANTS

STATES	TOTAL
Alaska	\$ 21,600
Alabama	\$ 6,186,678
Arkansas	\$ 2,153,556
Arizona	\$ 1,961,516
California	\$ 322,400
Colorado	\$ 2,403,056
Connecticut	\$ 668,532
Delaware	\$ 214,748
District of Columbia	\$ 208,396
Florida	\$ 5,419,778
Georgia	\$ 996,776
Guam	\$ 229,112
Hawaii	\$ 615,757
Idaho	\$ 50,000
Illinois	\$ 1,583,975
Indiana	\$ 777,672
Iowa	\$ 2,218,873
Kansas	\$ 78,129
Kentucky	\$ 1,783,653
Louisiana	\$ 2,815,990
Maine	\$ 342,026
Massachusetts	\$ 2,123,564
Maryland	\$ 1,600,183
Michigan	\$ 1,587,960
Minnesota	\$ 627,562
Mississippi	\$ 2,657,499
Montana	\$ 78,000
North Carolina	\$ 877,196
North Dakota	\$ 785,865
Nebraska	\$ 21,600
New Hampshire	\$ 253,688
New Jersey	\$ 1,967,309
New Mexico	\$ 1,243,737
Nevada	\$ 445,697
New York	\$ 5,163,660
Ohio	\$ 4,625,903
Oklahoma	\$ 1,969,066
Oregon	\$ 544,650
Pennsylvania	\$ 1,862,988
Puerto Rico	\$ 802,864
Rhode Island	\$ 471,088
South Carolina	\$ 590,081
South Dakota	\$ 725,397
Tennessee	\$ 1,213,006
Texas	\$ 2,410,000
Utah	\$ 675,182
Vermont	\$ 40,000
Virginia	\$ 2,374,672
Washington	\$ 665,594
West Virginia	\$ 86,511
Wisconsin	\$ 1,084,092
Wyoming	\$ 1,366,138