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FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR SEATTLE BUS TUNNEL

Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole announced a grant of \$67.6 million in Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) funding for continued construction of the Seattle, Wash., bus tunnel. The additional funding is part of a full-funding contract negotiated last year between UMTA and Seattle Metro.

In making the announcement, Dole said, "The Seattle bus tunnel is among the most innovative of the projects funded by UMTA. The tunnel will be a major asset to Seattle's excellent transportation network."

UMTA and Seattle Metro signed a full-funding contract in May 1986 for the innovative mass transit project, with the federal government providing \$23.6 million at that time. The additional \$67.6 million announced today is part of \$151.4 million UMTA will ultimately contribute toward the project's total cost of \$395 million.

The 1.3 mile tunnel will provide an express route for high tech Metro buses under business and government buildings. Its five stations are expected to be ready for service in 1990.

U.S. Department of Transportation

Urban Mass Transportation Administration

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