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MASS TRANSIT GRANTS AWARDED TO
STATES AND PLANNING AGENCIES

The Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced its intent to approve transit assistance grants to 13 states totaling \$11,848,856. These grants will fund public transportation projects in non-urbanized areas and will also make funds available for transportation assistance for elderly and handicapped persons.

These are the first funds released under a new grant release process for the state administered transportation and planning programs. UMTA will now be making announcements of intended grant approvals every 60 days. This announcement covers the time period of February 1 - March 31, 1986.

In announcing these grants, Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Ralph L. Stanley said, "UMTA is committed to improving its grants processing by expediting the review and approval of state administered formula grants. When President Reagan signed the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (STAA) into law, he affirmed this nation's commitment to an effective mass transit system. Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Hanford Dole and I believe the new procedures will provide a more predictable delivery system for Federal transit assistance."

Ten states will receive a total of \$9,742,681 for statewide programs for projects for public transportation services in rural and small urban areas under 50,000 population. These funds cover capital, administrative, planning and operating assistance, and are matched by state and local funds.

A total of \$2,106,175 will be distributed by five states to nonprofit organizations which provide transportation services to elderly and handicapped persons. These funds can be used to purchase vehicles and other equipment specially designed for this use.

(more)

In addition, a total of \$1,799,148 will be approved in transit planning to states and metropolitan area planning organizations under the technical studies program.

The 10 states receiving grants for non-urbanized areas and the amounts are:

Connecticut	\$ 30,767	Washington	\$ 1,056,540
Maine	\$ 619,280	Indiana	\$ 2,266,860
Virginia	\$ 1,549,946	Vermont	\$ 197,818
Florida	\$ 1,892,031	Kansas	\$ 1,102,945
Montana	\$ 393,059	Idaho	\$ 633,435

The five states receiving grants for transportation services for the elderly and handicapped and the amounts are:

Maine	\$ 246,934	Mississippi	\$ 398,896
Missouri	\$ 585,000	Kansas	\$ 384,332
Kentucky	\$ 491,013		

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