



U.S. Department of  
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## UMTA SELECTS 23 PROPOSALS FOR RESEARCH GRANTS

Twenty-three research proposals from 21 transportation agencies have been selected for future funding by the Department of Transportation in two programs emphasizing new technology and innovative techniques in mass transportation.

The programs are administered by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) which selected the 23 proposals from more than 110 submissions. UMTA will provide more than \$6 million in federal funds for these projects, representing 75 percent of the total cost. Participating local agencies will provide the remaining 25 percent.

UMTA Administrator Ralph Stanley commented, "This program is particularly valuable because it encourages new ideas and moves them from the drawing boards and planning departments into revenue service. The proposals selected today are eligible for funding. It is now up to the local operators to submit formal grant applications."

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PROPOSALS SELECTED FOR FUNDING

Federal Funds

Alaska

City of Anchorage -- will develop a public-private cooperative program to serve low density areas with transportation services. \$ 200,000

District of Columbia

Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority -- will test alternating current propulsion rail cars. \$2,700,000

Florida

Florida Department of Transportation -- will install and evaluate methanol fuel systems on three buses. \$ 260,000

Metropolitan Dade County Transportation Administration -- will provide transportation to inner city job seekers through third party agreements. \$ 203,250

Illinois

Greater Peoria Mass Transit District -- will implement a prepaid pass program for transit riders. \$ 150,000

Iowa

Des Moines Metropolitan Transit Authority -- will introduce a zone fare system and service modifications intended to increase farebox revenues and operating efficiency. \$ 150,000

Minnesota

Metropolitan Transit Commission (Minneapolis/St. Paul) -- will develop ridesharing incentives in I-394 corridor. \$ 150,000

Missouri

Bi-State Development Agency (St. Louis) -- will develop a comprehensive maintenance record program. \$ 206,250

Federal Funds

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Office of State Planning -- will establish and operate an information referral system coordinating public and private transportation providers. \$ 30,000

New York

Metropolitan Transportation Authority (New York City) -- will use robotics in the Long Island Rail Road shops. \$ 80,000

Metropolitan Transportation Authority (New York City) -- will develop and employ new methods for reducing rail wear and squeal noise on curves. \$280,000

New York State Department of Transportation -- will conduct a bus maintenance training program for eight transit authorities. \$465,660

Ohio

Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority -- will develop and implement a user subsidy program for the elderly. \$ 58,500

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (Cleveland) -- will establish regional coordination of elderly and handicapped transportation services. \$100,000

Oklahoma

Oklahoma City -- will develop and implement a bicycle/transit coordination program. \$141,332

Oregon

Tri-Met (Portland) -- will develop a centrally dispatched elderly and handicapped service. \$ 12,700

Tri-Met (Portland) -- will prepare and distribute special marketing materials for non-English speaking riders. \$ 14,250

Federal Funds

Pennsylvania

Port Authority of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh) -- will use microprocessor technology to monitor track circuits, signals, switch positions and train controlling. \$627,000

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (Philadelphia) -- will test and evaluate an automated vending system for weekly and monthly passes. \$315,000

Cambria County Transit Authority (Johnstown) -- will take the lead in a four transit system consortium to purchase spare parts. \$157,500

Vermont

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission -- will demonstrate transportation coordination and brokerage in rural areas. \$123,000

Washington

Washington Department of Transportation -- will develop a driver training program including defensive driving, CPR, first aid, passenger assistance and coping with stress. \$ 56,350

Seattle Metro -- will develop an education program for training elderly and handicapped persons in using the transit system. \$ 12,750

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