



U.S. Congressman
Nick Rahall
WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRANSPORTATION FUNDS HEADED FOR WEST VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today announced the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has bestowed \$1.26 million in funds to the West Virginia Department of Administration for transportation purposes.

The funding includes \$860,667 for operating assistance, \$100,000 to purchase three lift-equipped replacement vans and communications system, \$50,000 for the program reserve, \$178,353 for state administration, and \$79,016 for the rural transit assistance program.

Rahall, who is a ranking Member of the Public Works and Transportation Committee and the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, recently introduced legislation to increase total UMTA funding. Within the UMTA program, Rahall's bill would then increase the funding percentage for small urban areas (50,000 to 200,000 population) from 6 percent to 10 percent and expand the rural transit funding percentage from 4 percent to 7.5 percent -- almost double its current allocation.

"I am pleased that West Virginia has been awarded these funds but I am firm in my belief that we need to receive a larger piece of the transit pie," said Rahall. "I am optimistic that 1991 will be a watershed year for rural transportation."

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