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\$2.5 MILLION AWARDED FOR WEST VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON DC -- U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall announced today the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration awarded a total of \$2,510,038 in project funding for a wide range of transit activities in West Virginia.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation will receive \$219,558 for FY 1993 Statewide Transportation Planning and Planning Assistance for the local unified planning work programs throughout the state.

The Tri-State Transit Authority, located in Huntington, West Virginia, was awarded \$585,354 in funding for assistance in operating.

The West Virginia Department of Transportation will also receive \$1,705,126 which will finance operating assistance of the rural transportation operators throughout the state, the purchase of two 26 ft. replacement buses with lifts and one replacement lift-equipped van for the physically challenged. This grant will also fund intercity bus projects, the rural transit assistance program and the State Administration.

"Mass transit funding is an integral part of West Virginia's move to become more accessible. Access that will not only improve the quality of our lives, but improve our tourism potential as well," stated Rahall.