

KPTA NEWSLETTER

Published monthly for the Kentucky Public Transit Association
by Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass

JANUARY 1991

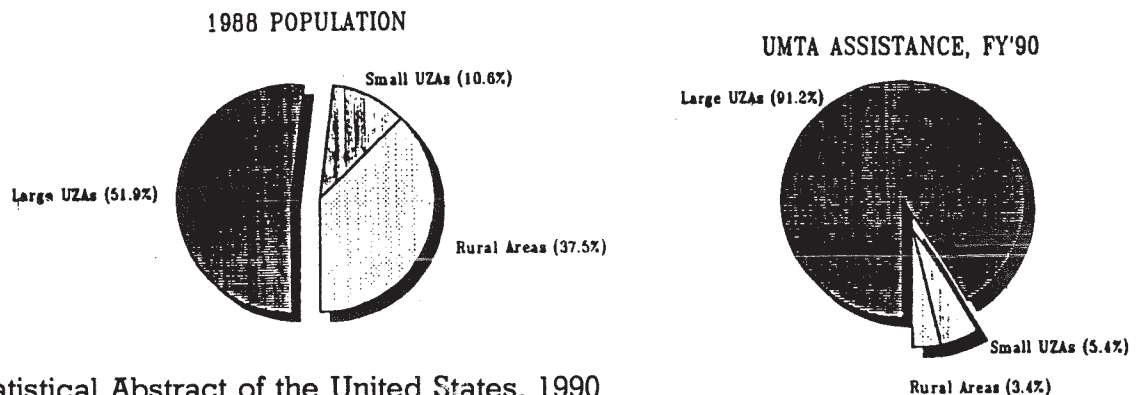
* * * **HAPPY NEW YEAR** * * *

FUNDING APPORTIONMENTS FOR FY '91

The announcement of the FY 1991 state apportionments for various transit assistance programs was published in the November 23, 1990 edition of the Federal Register. UMTA has also allocated some additional funds that were returned or not utilized to the states along with the Congressional appropriations.

According to the CTAA, Kentucky has been apportioned \$2,486,500 for Section 9(a)(1), \$1,867,100 for Section 18 Rural, \$95,600 for RTAP and \$594,600 for Section 16(b) 2. These amounts were derived from a formula taking the states' small-urban, rural, and elderly & disabled populations into account.

Even though funding is slightly higher for most areas in the country, the absence of equity still exists. As seen by the graph below, 48.1% of the citizens of the United States receive only 8.8% of UMTA assistance. (These numbers are most probably skewed by the lack of supply or demand of rural transportation systems in most states. A more demonstrative illustration of equitable funding would be an analysis of demand for service versus funding.)



From: Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1990

TOYS FROM TARC

TARC celebrated its tenth anniversary this year for its Toys from TARC campaign. This campaign is a coordinated effort between TARC, Bridge the Gap and WDJX radio to supply toys to underprivileged children in the Jefferson County area.

Patrons of TARC were encouraged to give a gift in exchange for their fare. They were also asked to donate money for the purchase of books to be distributed along with the toys. The books were purchased from Carmichael's Book Store, which sells the books to TARC at a considerable discount.

According to Doris Bales at TARC, however, the campaign this year showed a slump in contributions. In 1987, TARC collected 3,000 toys; approximately one-half that in 1988 and 1989; this year the number dropped to around 1,000 toys collected and \$900 for the purchase of books.

COAL LIQUEFACTION: AGAIN?

According to a press release from the University of Kentucky, rising oil prices and the uncertainty of oil supplies has spawned a new wave of interest in coal liquefaction technology.

According to Gerald Huffman of UK's Institute for Mining and Minerals Research, "...the price of oil has reached the level where coal liquefaction becomes economically viable. But to have commercial development, companies would have to be assured that prices would stay at the level for the long haul." Crude oil prices have retreated already from the peak levels.

Huffman goes on to say that if liquefaction of coal comes into wide use, it will have a major impact on coal-producing states such as Kentucky.

Presently, liquefaction can produce a barrel of oil for between \$35 and \$40. "We hope that in the next few years, with improved technology we'll have that price down to \$30 or perhaps \$25 per barrel," said Huffman. If the cost can be lowered, the impact to Kentucky would be astounding.

SENATOR CRANSTON TO RETIRE

According to APTA, U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), a key player in transit's re-authorization and long time supporter of mass transit, announced that he will not run for re-election in 1992.

He announced that he will step down immediately from his position as majority whip, but will retain his chairmanship of the Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Affairs which has jurisdiction over the re-authorization of the Urban Mass Transportation Act.

Senator Cranston cited health reasons for his announcement.

CLEAN AIR ACT

New diesel bus emissions standards have been set by the Clean Air Act which was passed at the end of the last Congress.

The reduction of emissions based upon their content per brake horse power and request for State Implement Plans which may include enhancing public transit were also cited in the final bill.

TRANSIT STORIES

Is This The Bus To Junction City?

Since I did not receive any stories from anyone else, I will get the ball rolling with one of my favorite transit stories.

There was a Lexington lady, who was a patron of the WHEELS, who would ask daily if she was boarding the bus to Junction City, Kentucky. Of course we would say no and she would frown. As these stories usually go, something funny was about to happen.

One afternoon the WHEELS buses were lined up in front of the senior citizens center, as they are every day, however, this afternoon was different; one Bluegrass Ultra-Transit (BUS) bus was also there for a special trip.

The lady began her daily ritual of looking for the Junction City bus, and much to her surprise the driver of the BUS-bus said, "yes" to her question. As you may have expected it was very difficult getting her off that bus.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT. SEND US YOUR AMUSING OR INTERESTING STORIES FOR THE NEWSLETTER.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: FAREWELL
BY: DWAYNE STICE**

As my term as president of the Kentucky Public Transit Association is drawing to a close, I want to express my sincere appreciation to each of you for your contributions to the success of the organization. I want to thank Mark Davis of the Purchase Area Development District for all of the assistance he has rendered during my tenure. ALSO, thanks to Dave Arnett for hosting so many meetings, Ned Colcord for his work as Secretary, and Sue Jeffers for her efforts in planning the 1989 conference. I hope that we will all continue to work together to provide the best possible service to our public. This has become increasingly difficult because of the continuing deterioration of funding. Let us continue to work to improve our levels of financial support and put forth the great effort that has kept our service levels where they are today. Our organization has been successful in raising awareness of our services, their diversity, and our fiscal difficulties. Let us continue to plead our case to benefit all of the citizens of our commonwealth.

**PLEASE SEND IN A COPY OF YOUR LOGO IF
YOU WANT TO HAVE YOUR ORGANIZATION PUT
ON THE ROSTER FOR UK PARKING.**

**FEDERATED TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES OF THE BLUEGRASS
PO BOX 11610
LEXINGTON, KY 40576**