

Advancement of the state of the art in other scientific areas can also be enhanced by related DOT research and development. One of the most applicable areas is the marine nautical sciences. Here, the Coast Guard is engaged in a major R&D effort in the development of Ocean Data Buoy System hardware. This will contribute significantly in understanding the physical environment of the oceans and will assist many other activities outside of the DOT.

In supporting other national interests, one of the major cost considerations is the impact that these outside programs will have on directly related transportation programs. Costs in these cases include budgetary funds, R&D capability and equipment, facilities and manpower availability.

2. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Department will lend support to other national objectives where they are transportation related. Also, to be considered are tasks which may not be transportation related, but which the Department has a capacity to perform more efficiently or effectively than other agencies of the Government.

For instance, the Department may take account of assistance to the urban poor by encouraging planning of urban transportation systems which make provision for easy and low-priced access to places of work for unemployed ghetto residents. The Department may wish to encourage the provision of transportation to poor and undeveloped rural areas for the same purpose, although the provision of such transportation might not be justified on strict economic efficiency grounds.

In the design of the Interstate Highway System, provision is made for clearances of bridges and overpasses which would not be necessary except for the need to accommodate military traffic such as outsized missiles and other weapons. The Coast Guard always maintains a capability to assist in national defense. Beyond this, the Coast Guard has a capability to perform marine operations that is unique