



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Kansas City, Missouri, will begin preliminary design work on a bus freeway to its new airport, and the city of Warren, Ohio, will buy 24 new transit buses, both with help from grants announced today by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority received a \$121,466 UMTA grant, or two-thirds of the \$182,200 cost for preliminary engineering work on the bus freeway.

Kansas City International Airport is located 18 miles from downtown Kansas City. Now under construction, it is expected to open in 1970. The Authority plans to use the transit freeway for local transit service for employees at the airport and surrounding industrial and commercial areas, as well as to provide express service to the airport.

The proposed downtown terminal would be located near Model Cities Areas and would give residents of these areas ready access to thousands of new jobs opening at or near the airport.

Warren's grant totals \$353,132, or one-half of the cost of the buses and related facilities. UMTA has reserved an additional \$117,376 for the Warren project pending completion of certain planning requirements. The Federal participation in the project is two-thirds of the cost.

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Warren, on the basis of a study of its transit needs, has decided to take over the local bus system from a private company. The city has been subsidizing bus operations for almost two years to maintain continued service in the Warren area.

The company's present buses average 18.2 years of age. New buses will provide more comfortable transportation, lower maintenance costs and will enable it to increase service, the city said. In addition to the buses, the city will purchase land and build a combination bus storage, maintenance, and office facility.

For further information:

Kansas City, Missouri

William Icenogle, Executive Director  
Kansas City Area Transportation Authority  
414 Board of Trade Building  
127 West Tenth Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64105

Warren, Ohio

Harold Schultz, Director  
Planning City Development  
135 Pine Avenue, S.E.  
Warren, Ohio 44481

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