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The City of Waterloo, Iowa, aided by a \$31,800 Federal grant from the Department of Transportation, will buy four

minibuses for operation in a downtown loop.

The grant was one of three supplemental grants announced today by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration. The other grants went to the Erie (Pa.) Metropolitan Transit Authority (\$90,189) and the City of Topeka, Kansas (\$8,200).

Both of these will go toward meeting the higher than anticipated costs.

Waterloo's minibuses will carry 19 to 23 passengers and will operate in two downtown loops, making complete cycles every seven to ten minutes. When the minibuses go into operation, the city's regular transit buses will no longer operate in the 12-block downtown core area. The larger buses will link the downtown loops with the outlying residential areas.

Today's grant supplements a \$245,000 one made in July 1966 to help purchase 30 new 35-passenger transit buses. The new grant amounts to one-half of the cost of the minibuses. UMTA reserved an additional \$10,600 for the minibus project pending the completion of certain planning requirements.

The Erie grant supplements a \$1,432,170 funding made in August 1967 for the purchase of 50 transit buses, a new garage and related equipment. It will go toward increased costs for the garage construction and the installation of washing and fueling facilities, inadvertently omitted from the original application.

The UMTA grant finances one-half of the increased costs. An additional \$30,063 has been reserved for this project pending completion of required planning.

The Topeka grant supplements one made in July 1966 for \$192,500 to help finance a new garage and office facility for the Topeka Transportation Company. The new grant, which amounts to one-half of the supplemental costs, will go toward additional equipment and design improvements which add safety and efficienty to the facility.

For further information:

Project No. IA-UTG-1 Honorable Lloyd L. Turner
Mayor, City of Waterloo, Iowa
City Hall
Waterloo, Iowa 50705

Project No. PA-UTG-5 Dr. R. L. Lasher
Chairman, Erie Metropolitan
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213 State Street
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Project No. KANS-UTG-1

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