



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$8,840,066 grant to the Cleveland, Ohio transit system.

Funds totaling \$6,630,050 were released today and an additional \$2,210,016 will be payable when regional transportation planning has been completed.

The Federal grant will meet two-thirds of the \$13,260,100 project cost.

"The new equipment and facilities that will be made available with this grant," Secretary Volpe said, "should assure Cleveland area residents of excellent public transit service.

"The grant also should allow the transit system to stabilize its fares, instead of increasing them as it has been forced to do in the past. Increased bus fares and reduced service almost always hits low income groups the hardest because they cannot afford to buy a car."

The grant was made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, headed by Carlos C. Villarreal.

The major components of the \$13.2 million project are the purchases of 100 new buses for \$3,150,000, ten new rapid transit cars for \$2,625,000 and the construction of a new central shop facility which will cost about \$3,152,000.

The new 100 diesel buses will replace 19-year old equipment. Their acquisition is designed to improve service, reduce breakdown frequency and lower fleet maintenance cost.

The ten new rapid transit cars will meet the unexpectedly high response to the opening of the rapid transit extension to Hopkins International Airport in November, 1968. The number of daily riders is now almost double the 2,000 originally projected.

The new central shop containing 146,000 square feet of work space, will replace an obsolete facility at Reed Station. An office building for the Engineering and Equipment Departments will be attached to it.

Project No. OHIO-UTG-7

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