



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$413,894 Federal grant to assist the City of Evansville, Indiana, in improving public transportation.

The grant will pay half the cost of buying 24 new 45-passenger diesel transit buses and 27 locked type fare boxes. The new buses will replace 23-year-old equipment.

"This new equipment will enable Evansville to improve the quality and attractiveness of its public transportation and at the same time reduce the high cost of maintaining old and obsolete equipment," Secretary Volpe said.

"The City of Evansville has committed itself to providing public transit service to meet the needs of its citizens who because of age or economic circumstances have no other means of transportation. It is the function of the Department of Transportation to make available financial assistance so that local government can meet this important commitment," Volpe said.

The new equipment will be leased to Evansville City Transit, Inc., which has operated public transit service at a loss since 1967. The City presently subsidizes the operation in the amount of \$5,000 monthly.

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

Evansville will be eligible for an additional grant of \$137,965 if the planning requirements of the Urban Mass Transportation Act are met within three years.

Project Number IND-UTG-3.

For further information: Mayor Frank F. McDonald
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