



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20591

FOR TUESDAY RELEASE  
October 27, 1970

DOT --22770  
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More than half the city buses of Pontiac, Michigan, will be replaced by new 33-passenger, air-conditioned diesel vehicles with assistance of a Federal grant, Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe announced today.

Carlos C. Villarreal, head of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration of the Department of Transportation, said a \$181,066 grant will supplement some \$90,000 from the city of Pontiac to purchase not only 10 new buses but also maintenance equipment and maintenance vehicle.

The Public Transportation System of Pontiac operates 19 buses that average nearly 15 years in age. "Replacement of 10 of those buses with modern equipment may well reduce maintenance costs by as much as 50 percent," Villarreal said.

"The Department of Transportation is pleased to participate in the funding needed to make available to the residents of Pontiac modern, efficient public transportation which is an economic necessity to the city," he added.

Pontiac has actively assisted the PTC financially since 1960 when the city entered into a series of service agreements with the PTC following a six-month employees strike against the former owner. The city owns and maintains control of the use and maintenance of the equipment which the PTC operates under lease.

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