



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$716,861 Federal grant to the South Bend Public Transportation Corporation to assist in the purchase of new transit equipment and facilities.

The people of South Bend need and deserve a modern, efficient bus system. The improvements needed for this transit system to continue to be an economic and social benefit to the community can be made only through the investment of public funds," Secretary Volpe said.

The average age of South Bend's present fleet is 21 years. None of the buses is less than 19 years of age.

The grant was made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration. Carlos C. Villarreal, Administrator, said "The project will substantially improve the mass transit system in South Bend. It will benefit riders, motorists, merchants and the entire community."

Thirty new 45-passenger diesel transit coaches will be purchased in addition to land and buildings, electric fare boxes, and other equipment.

The net project cost of the improvement program is \$1,433,722. Today's grant represents one half of the net project cost. The Corporation can qualify for an additional \$238,953 when the region meets full legal planning requirements.

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