NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR THURSDAY RELEASE January 14, 1971

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a Federal grant of nearly \$1.9 million to the city of Philadelphia to help modernize six of the city's subway stations.

The grant of \$1,866,666 will cover two-thirds of the three-year, \$2.8 million project, with local contributions covering the other third. The grant was awarded by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

Included in the improvement project will be the complete modernization of two subway stations, wall and ceiling rehabilitation in three others and new lighting along with closed-circuit television surveillance at all six stations on the Broad and Ridge Lines.

The new lighting, TV protection and improved station appearance will attract more Philadelphians to the stations, increasing mass transit ridership and generally improving the community, Secretary Volpe said.

"Riders will benefit from fewer accidents in dark areas, less crime, more efficient facilities and lower transportation costs," the Secretary said.

The total improvement costs include \$625,000 for modernizing two Spring Garden stations; \$115,000 for rehabilitating the Fairmount station; \$690,000 for modernizing the Girard station; \$26,000 for new lighting only at the Columbia station and \$80,000 for new lighting and rehabilitation at the Susquehanna-Dauphia station.

An additional \$704,000 will be spent for closed-circuit television surveillance and another \$560,000 for architecture and engineering work at all six stations.

"The six stations to be improved under this grant serve 45,000 riders each weekday," commented UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal. "But the overall project will benefit the entire city of Philadelphia."