



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

# NEWS

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The U.S. Department of Transportation today made a grant of more than \$5 million to the Southern California Rapid Transit District to help Los Angeles get 212 new transit buses.

The \$5,231,722 grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, will help the District buy the 212 air conditioned diesel transit buses. The new 51-passenger coaches will replace an equal number of buses averaging 16 years of age.

Each of the new buses will be equipped with a two-way radio which will significantly help in the control of the District's fleet. The project includes additional supporting two-way radio equipment, 63 supervisory automobiles, 6 maintenance-type trucks and bus cleaning equipment.

Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said the bus replacement project "is another step in our efforts to save and upgrade major public transit systems and increase ridership." The Southern California Rapid Transit District covers an area 110 by 75 miles in and around Los Angeles, serving a population of about seven million persons.

"An additional grant of \$1,743,907 will be made to the District when it meets full UMTA planning requirements, bringing the total Federal share up to \$6,975,629, or two-thirds of the \$10,463,444 project cost," according to UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal. Local contributions will cover the remaining one-third costs.

For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or: Mr. Jack R. Gilstrap, General Manager, Southern California Rapid Transit District, 1060 South Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90015.