NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Additional Federal funds totaling nearly \$3.5 million today were granted to the Port Authority of Allegheny County by the U.S. Department of Transportation to meet rising construction costs of four Pittsburgh bus facilities.

The \$3,499,453 grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, will cover two-thirds of the additional building costs for three bus garages and a combined maintenance and administration building. The remaining one-third costs will be paid for with local funds.

The funds are required to complete the second phase of a three-phase program by the Port Authority designed to improve transit service in the Pittsburgh area, according to Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe.

The construction is part of an overall transit improvement project started in July 1966 with another UMTA grant of \$11.2 million. The entire project consists of the Port Authority buying 200 new air-conditioned diesel buses, building new bus garages in W. Mifflin, E. Liberty and Harmar and constructing a combined repair shop and administration building in Manchester.

When completed, the \$22 million project will be two-thirds funded by UMTA with \$14,789,787, and one-third covered by local contributions of \$7,394,895, according to UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or: Mr. John W. Dameron, Executive Director and General Manager, Port Authority of Allegheny County, 121 Seventh Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230.