



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY A.M.  
April 21, 1971

DOT -- 6571  
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The U. S. Department of Transportation today made a \$78, 500 technical study grant to the Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (PATH) to plan for the modernization of 11 New York and New Jersey commuter rail stations.

The grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, will allow PATH to plan for modification and rehabilitation of the 11 commuter rail entrances, concourses and platforms. The UMTA grant will pay for two-thirds of the \$117, 750 project cost, with local contributions of \$39, 250 covering the remaining one-third.

In announcing the grant, Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said that the funds "will allow PATH to start on a dramatic upgrading of these 11 turn-of-the-century facilities, much to the benefit of PATH's 145, 000 daily riders."

The PATH interstate rail system has 13 stations in New York City and Northern New Jersey. Service on the system originally was provided by the Hudson and Manhattan Railroad which began operations in 1908. In 1962, PATH was created as an operating subsidiary of the Port of New York Authority to acquire and operate the rail system.

Since 1962, the PATH rehabilitation and modernization program, representing a total investment of over \$200 million, has upgraded their New York-New Jersey transit system, accompanied by a steady increase of nearly 50-percent in passenger volume during the past five years.

---

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION WEEK / MAY 16-22**  
*Transportation: Filling the Needs of a Growing America...*

A cleanup and "patch-and-paint" program for the old H&M stations was one of the first tasks accomplished in 1962. Other functional improvements have been made, including the installation of fluorescent lighting, new stair treads and elevators and station public address systems.

However, other more extensive improvements in the old H&M stations had to be deferred while PATH devoted its financial efforts principally to the acquisition of new air-conditioned rolling stock, modernization of the traction power system, installation of a new communications system, signal and track rehabilitation and other operational improvements.

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said that "today's grant is a good example of how Government and the transportation industry are working together to improve our nation's vital mass transportation facilities."

— O —

For further information; contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or:

Mr. Louis J. Gambaccini, Vice President and General Manager  
Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation  
111 Eighth Avenue  
New York, New York 10011