



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The U. S. Department of Transportation today helped Lincoln, Nebraska keep mass transit service in the State Capital.

The Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), made a grant of \$965,000 to the city to cover half the cost of buying out the community's privately-operated transit system -- Lincoln Transit Lines, Inc. -- and to cover other related transit improvements.

Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said that an additional UMTA grant of \$321,666 will be available to Lincoln after the city completes its regional transportation planning requirements. This will bring the Federal share of helping the city improve its transit system to \$1,286,666, or two-thirds of the total \$1.9 million project costs, the Secretary said. Local contributions from Lincoln will cover the remaining one-third costs.

In addition to taking over Lincoln Transit Lines, which has given notice that it intends to discontinue bus service in the near future, the city plans to use the UMTA grant to:

- * Buy 36 new air-conditioned 45-passenger buses and four used mini-buses.
- * Purchase 36 new fare boxes, bus stop signs and a new bus washer.
- * Buy a complete two-way radio system for its buses, purchase new shop equipment, two service cars and one service truck and make improvements to the system's bus garage.

- more -

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said that "today's grant will not only allow Lincoln to continue with a mass transit system but it will enable the city to greatly improve service to the public."

Lincoln is the first city in Nebraska to receive a capital grant from UMTA. Acquisition and the related improvements are expected to be finished during 1973, Administrator Villarreal said.

For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or, Mr. Douglas Brogden, Director of Planning, City of Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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