



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

NEWS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY P.M.
December 24, 1971

DOT -- 23971
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The U. S. Department of Transportation today made a \$1.2 million grant to Knoxville, Tennessee, to help the city purchase 40 new buses, buy 42 two-way radios and modernize its bus maintenance facilities.

The \$1,268,344 grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will allow Knoxville to immediately obligate \$951,258 for transit improvements. An additional \$317,086 will be available to Knoxville after the city completes its regional transportation planning requirements.

"The Federal Government is paying for two-thirds of this \$1.9 million project as part of our nationwide effort to save and upgrade urban transit systems," commented Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe in making the grant announcement. The city of Knoxville will provide the remaining one-third funding, the Secretary said.

In addition to providing funds for the purchase of 40 new 45-passenger air-conditioned diesel transit buses, today's grant will allow Knoxville to remodel an existing building to provide service, maintenance and administration facilities; buy and install 42 two-way radios and a base station; and purchase shop machinery and related service equipment, according to UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal.

Mass transit service in Knoxville is provided under city contract by the Knoxville Transit Corporation, which operates 78 buses on 21 lines and seven routes over 202 round-trip miles of city and county streets.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or the Office of Mayor Leonard R. Rogers, City Hall, City of Knoxville, Knoxville, Tennessee (UMTA Project No. TENN-UTG-5).



U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION EXPOSITION
DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT • MAY 27-JUNE 4, 1972

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