



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

# NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 72-14  
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The U.S. Department of Transportation today announced 26 new grants for the nationwide improvement of urban mass transportation, bringing the total of all such grants approved during the past three months to more than \$75 million.

The 26 new grants, totaling \$6,620,933, were made to city, regional and transportation agencies in 16 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Eleven other major grants, totaling \$68,620,566, were announced individually during January, February and March. (See DOT news releases UMTA 72-1 and 72-3 through 72-10.)

All 37 grants were made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA). Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said the grants were part of President Richard Nixon's \$3.1 billion, five-year program to upgrade, improve and develop new bus, rapid transit and commuter rail systems across the Nation.

The 26 new grantees are located in Juneau, Alaska; Long Beach, California; Jacksonville, Orlando and Miami, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Honolulu, Hawaii; Chicago, Illinois; Des Moines, Iowa; Paducah, Kentucky; Boston and West Springfield, Massachusetts; Meridian, Mississippi; Long Beach, New York; Salem, Oregon; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Cranston, Rhode Island; Dallas and San Antonio, Texas; Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; Washington, D. C.; and Hato Rey, Puerto Rico.

Today's 26 new grants include 10 totaling \$4,846,408 for capital improvements, such as new buses and related transit equipment, according to UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal.

Eight others totaling \$1,003,509 were for technical studies which lead to capital grants, Administrator Villarreal said. One other grant and one contract totaling \$356,427 went toward demonstration projects which are



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expected to bring about new and better methods of providing urban transportation. And the final six grants were for service development projects totaling \$414,589 which will provide transportation for poor, elderly or handicapped persons in selected locations.

The 10 capital grants went to the:

\* Metropolitan Bus Authority, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico --\$2,351,356-- additional funds to purchase 150 instead of 50 new buses and 40 new fare collection turnstiles for improved bus service in San Juan. (UMTA Project No. PR-UTG-9)

\* City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania --\$944,333 to assist in the design and construction of an electric power traction substation for the Lindenwold high-speed commuter rail line, which operates partly in the city's 8th Street and Locust Street subways. (INT-UTG-11)

\* Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), Boston --two grants totaling \$888,940-- the first, for \$568,940, is to help the MBTA buy service equipment, including 10 trucks, 11 snowplows and 10 cars, along with 26 pieces of shop equipment. The second, for \$320,000, was for track relocation and construction work on MBTA's South Bay Maintenance Center project. (MASS-UTG-21 and MASS-UTG-7, respectively)

\* Government of the District of Columbia --\$260,000 to help the city purchase 15 new medium-sized buses for expanded shuttle service in the downtown employment area of the Nation's Capital. (DC-UTG-2)

\* Dallas Public Transit Board, Dallas, Texas --\$97,180 for additional relocation costs as part of the city's \$20 million capital improvement project, which will include 310 new buses, related bus equipment and additional office and bus service facilities. (TEX-UTG-1)

\* City of Long Beach, New York --\$82,333 to buy four new buses and related bus transit equipment. (NY-UTG-40)

\* City of Chicago, Illinois --\$80,000 for additional funds to complete a previous \$13 million UMTA grant which is helping the city buy 150 rapid transit cars and perform related engineering and inspection work. (ILL-UTG-5)

\* City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska --\$72,266 to help the city purchase two new buses, buy shop equipment and build a bus garage. Juneau is the first Alaskan city to receive an UMTA capital grant for mass transit. (ALASKA-UTG-1)

\* City of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin --\$70,000 to assist the city in buying four new buses to replace vehicles which are more than 25 years old. (WISC-UTG-4)

The eight technical study projects funded by UMTA during the past 90 days include grants to the:

\* Metropolitan Atlanta (Georgia) Rapid Transit Authority --\$360,000 in additional funds for further development of a new rapid transit system to serve the Atlanta area. (GA-T9-3)

\* City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii --\$248,836 to broaden rapid transit planning efforts already under way in the Honolulu metropolitan area. (HAWAII-T9-3)

\* Jacksonville (Florida) Area Planning Board --\$150,000 for the planning of a long-range, coordinated public transit system in the Jacksonville area. (FLA-T9-8)

\* East Central Florida Regional Planning Commission --\$116,000 for a study of short and long-range transit needs in the Orlando area. (FLA-T9-7)

\* Metropolitan Dade County, Florida --\$41,340 in additional funds to develop a short-range transit improvement program in Dade County. (FLA-T9-1)

\* Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission, Springfield, Massachusetts --\$64,000 for both short and long-range transit planning in the Springfield area. (MASS-T9-11)

\* City of Meridian, Mississippi --\$13,333 to examine the options for continued transit service in Meridian, which faces loss of its bus service within a year, and to produce a five-year transit improvement program for the city. (MISS-T9-5)

\* City of Paducah, Kentucky --\$10,000 to develop recommendations for future bus service in Paducah, which also faces the loss of its only public transportation system. (KY-T9-3)

The demonstration grant and contract went to the:

\* National Transportation Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania --\$286,427 to try to develop a new concept which will allow the conversion of diesel engines so that they can burn natural gas. (PA-DMG-5)

\* Westinghouse Computer Department, Orlando, Florida --\$70,000 to furnish a computer system on a lease-purchase basis, which initially will be used to develop a low-cost computerized control system for a new Dial-A-Ride public bus system in Haddonfield, New Jersey. (DOT-UT-20006)

The six service development project grants went to the:

\* Central Iowa Regional Planning Commission, Des Moines, Iowa --\$236,031 to set up a multiple-service bus system which will provide transportation to employment and service facilities for poor, unemployed, elderly, handicapped and young people. (IOWA-DMG-2)

\* Long Beach (California) Transportation Company --\$71,700 to design and evaluate an extensive transit marketing information program as a means of increasing the use of mass transit in the Long Beach area. (CAL-DMG-16)

\* Oregon State Department of Transportation, Salem, Oregon --\$46,284 to explore the feasibility of using idle school buses to transport senior citizens and low-income families. (ORE-DMG-1)

\* San Antonio (Texas) Transit System --\$28,654 to develop and evaluate a fixed route schedule of bus transit service for two isolated, outlying San Antonio communities. (TEX-DMG-2)

\* Howard University, Washington, D.C. --\$17,620 to pay the costs of holding a two-day national conference designed to provide UMTA with information and data on the participation of ethnic and racial minorities in urban mass transit affairs. (DC-RDG-12)

\* City of Cranston, Rhode Island --\$14,300 for a demonstration planning project to survey the needs of Cranston's transit deprived and make recommendations for improvements. (RI-DMG-2)

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(For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or the individual grantee. When calling or writing for information, please refer to the project number and to this press release number.)

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