



**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

NEWS

**URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATION**

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UMTA 72-19
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The Department of Transportation has made a grant of \$8,267,000 to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe announced today at a news conference in Philadelphia.

"These funds, made available through our Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will provide two thirds of the amount necessary for the purchase of 300 new diesel buses. All of these buses will be equipped with environmental improvement kits," Secretary Volpe stated.

In addition to the new buses, the funds will cover the Federal share of the cost of more than 2,700 fuel injectors to clean up exhaust emissions from older buses in the SEPTA fleet, and spare engines and transmissions that will maximize the amount of time the new buses are in service.

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal said: "This grant points up President Richard Nixon's commitment to our nation's cities. It is the result of his concern that mobility be improved for America's urban residents."

The new buses will operate on both the City Transit and Red Arrow Divisions of SEPTA, and will replace vehicles that are more than 15 years old. All will be air-conditioned to provide increased rider comfort.

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U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION EXPOSITION
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"The President has called for us to write a success story for mass transportation in the 1970's," Secretary Volpe said, "and through projects such as this, we will meet his challenge."

Administrator Villarreal said: "Continued and improved transit service in the Philadelphia urban area requires that the old buses be replaced as quickly as possible with attractive, modern vehicles. In addition, the reduction of air pollution there requires that the old buses be replaced by vehicles which minimize air pollution."

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or Mr. William R. Eaton, General Manager, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, 2028 PSFS Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107 (UMTA Project PA-UTG-32).

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