



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Department of Transportation has approved a grant of \$1,930,380 to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), Secretary John A. Volpe announced today.

The funds, provided by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will pay two-thirds of the cost of lengthening platforms and concourses at 13th and 18th Streets on Philadelphia's Market Street subway, Secretary Volpe said.

"President Nixon's \$3.1 billion, five year program to preserve and improve transportation services in America's cities make it possible for us to assist in this important project in the heart of Philadelphia," Secretary Volpe added.

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal, discussing the benefits the project will bring, said: "This construction will provide greatly improved access from the subway through the grand hall of a new office complex, 1234 Market Street. The project will alleviate platform crowding and enable the future use of eight-car trains at these stations."

Construction of these improvements concurrently with that of adjacent private and city development will provide substantial cost savings to SEPTA. "Also, coordination of construction will minimize disruption to the normal flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the immediate area," Administrator Villarreal said.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or William R. Eaton, General Manager, SEPTA, 2028 PSFS Building, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107. (PA-UTG-33)

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