



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 72-52
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The Department of Transportation has approved a grant of \$549,080 to the Escambia County (Florida) Board of County Commissioners, Secretary John A. Volpe announced today.

The funds, provided by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will provide two-thirds of the cost of purchasing 24 new 33-passenger air-conditioned buses and fare boxes, spare parts, and bus shelters, Secretary Volpe said.

"Escambia County includes the city of Pensacola, and these new buses will allow the continuation of a high quality bus service throughout the metropolitan area," the Secretary said. "President Nixon has called on us to write a mass transportation success story for the 1970's, and projects such as this will help us meet his challenge."

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal pointed out that half of the local share, \$137,270, will be provided by the Florida State Department of Transportation, while the rest will be provided equally by the City of Pensacola and Escambia.

"This is the kind of local commitment to transportation that is necessary if the Federal-local partnership is to work in solving transportation problems," the Administration said. "In addition, special services will be developed for the elderly and handicapped."

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners Pensacola, Florida 32502. (FLA-UTG-13)

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