



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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UMTA 72-53
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The Department of Transportation has approved a grant of \$2,400,000 to the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (Tri-Met), which provides public transportation service in the Portland, Oregon area, Secretary John A. Volpe announced today.

The grant will be administered by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) and will provide two-thirds of the funds required to complete a \$3,600,000 capital improvement program for transit, Secretary Volpe said. The remaining one-third or local share will come from the proceeds of a transit tax authorized under Oregon laws.

"This capital improvement program has been designed by Tri-Met to improve and extend the level of mass transit service available in the Portland area," Secretary Volpe said. "President Nixon's \$3.1 billion five year program to improve public transit in America's cities makes this Federal participation possible. As a result the citizens of the Portland area will receive better and more adequate service."

UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal said the program will provide for the purchase of 40 new diesel buses, the renovation of 75 other buses, an installation of bus shelters and destination signs in buses. "The new buses will be equipped with components of the Environmental Improvement Package for pollution control, and 33 existing buses will be retrofitted with pollution control devices. President Nixon has called upon all public agencies to aid in cleaning up the nation's air, and UMTA is doing all it can to assist."

Bus passenger shelters will be erected in key locations throughout the area. They will be installed for the convenience and comfort of passengers, especially important because of the long rainy season in the Pacific Northwest.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs
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