



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$2.5 million grant to the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission of New York to aid in the preparation of technical plans for several mass transportation improvement projects in New York City and surrounding communities.

The \$2,566,666 grant, made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will pay for two-thirds of the planning costs for the improvements. The remaining one-third funds, which will bring the total planning investment to \$3.8 million, will be sought by Tri-State from the communities in which the improvements are being planned, Secretary Volpe said.

"This technical study grant provides for the continued implementation of improved intermodal planning, which is a critical part of President Nixon's program for bringing aid to our congested cities," Secretary Volpe said. "The grant also will help commuters in the New York area by allowing Tri-State to continue its present program.

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said the grant "will provide the Government's share of funds for the coordinated planning of regional transit systems in a multi-State area."

The Tri-State Commission, in cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the New York City Transit Authority, the City of New York and the City of Newark, will apply the funds toward technical planning for several rail and bus transit improvements. These improvements will range from extending subway lines to upgrading right-of-way structures and making stations more easily accessible.

The Commission already has received a previous grant from UMTA amounting to \$3.1 million, which it is using for technical planning activities such as finding out what kinds of bus service will work best in the Connecticut cities of Stamford, Norwalk and New Haven; what sort of transportation should be emphasized in the New Jersey cities of Newark and Plainfield, and what degree of service must be provided by New York City.

"Both grants are part of President Nixon's \$3.1 billion, five-year program to save and upgrade transit systems across the Nation," Administrator Villarreal said.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission at (212) 433-4200. (UMTA Project No. IT-09-0023)

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