



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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UMTA 73-19
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Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced a \$2 million grant to the Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) to aid in the completion of Phase I of LANTA's Transit Capital Improvement Program.

The \$2,002,726 grant was made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), and represents the Federal two-thirds for LANTA's program to provide improved public transportation to the Lehigh Valley. The entire plan includes capital-intensive programs as well as improved routing, scheduling and passenger comfort, with special attention given to the needs of the elderly and handicapped. In announcing the grant, Secretary Brinegar noted that this grant was in keeping with President Nixon's policy of sending the money "back to the scene of the action... where it can do the most good with the least waste for the most people."

The project will fund two-thirds of the cost of LANTA's program to purchase 59 new air-conditioned 40-45 passenger buses, the purchase of a new radio communication system, newly designed bus-stop markers, 50 new bus stop shelters, supervisory and maintenance vehicles plus auxiliary operating components and equipment. The net cost of the project is estimated to be \$3,004,090 of which UMTA will fund two-thirds. The remaining \$1,001,354 will be supplied locally by the Lehigh and Northampton Transit Authority.

The new buses and other capital improvements to be implemented under this project are expected to be operational in the fall of this year.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or Mr. Victor Anckaitus, Lehigh and Northampton Transit Authority, Twelfth and Cumberland Streets, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103. (UMTA Project No: PA-03-0038)

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