



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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UMTA 73-28  
Phone: (202) 426-4043

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced a \$1.7 million grant to the Transit Authority of Lexington and Fayette County, Lexington, Kentucky for the purchase of 42 new 45-passenger buses, the construction of a new maintenance facility and related equipment.

The grant of \$1,692,083 was made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), and represents the Federal two-thirds share. The local one-third share will be provided by the City of Lexington, Fayette County and the transit authority from their respective general funds. The equipment and facilities included in the project will be used to provide continuing transit service in the Lexington area when the privately-owned Lexington Transit Corporation discontinues service on June 30, 1973. Additional service facilities are planned, and local funds have been set aside to cover operating deficits through 1977.

In announcing the grant, Secretary Brinegar observed that the situation in Lexington was an outstanding example of a particularly well-organized Transit Authority, in that its membership reflects experience and perspective within both the community and the transit world. Those members with transportation background include the past president of Southern Greyhound, William E. Jones, Foster Ockerman, formerly Commissioner of Motor Transport for the State of Kentucky, and Harold Utter, owner and operator of several bus systems serving other communities within the general area. The additional five members of the eight-member board are made up of

representatives of the community. Secretary Brinegar said: "This caliber of transit experience is unusual for any city, especially one of Lexington's size, and speaks well for the future of transit in the area."

In making the grant, UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that the project would span two generation gaps in affording added comfort and convenience for the elderly and handicapped, and in serving the University of Kentucky campus. Herringer said it was in keeping with President Nixon's statement that: "We cannot afford a generation gap which shuts out the young in this country. But neither can we afford a generation gap that shuts out the old." The Administrator observed, "It is not often we find a project that serves both these goals so aptly."

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or Mr. William Jones, Chairman of the Transit Authority of Lexington and Fayette County, Municipal Building, Lexington, Kentucky 40507. (UMTA Project No. KY-03-0002)

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