



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY
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UMTA 57-74
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U. S. Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$261,120 to the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK), Newport, Kentucky, for the acquisition of the tangible assets of the privately owned Cincinnati, Newport, and Covington Transportation Company (CN&C). The grant also provides for the purchase and installation of 1,600 new bus stop signs. CN&C becomes the 122nd transit company whose public ownership has been made possible through UMTA's Capital Grant Program.

In announcing the award, Secretary Brinegar pointed out that "the Department of Transportation encourages public ownership and operation of mass transit systems when private ownership becomes impractical." Since 1972, when CN&C ceased operations and TANK entered into a leasing agreement with the company in order to maintain transit service, ridership has reversed its downward trend and has been climbing steadily. Outright acquisition will save TANK an estimated \$91,500 per year in projected rental fees.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that TANK is presently awaiting delivery of 78 new buses purchased with

the assistance of a previous UMTA grant. Demand for improved and extended transit service in the Northern Kentucky area has grown to the point that none of the presently operated buses are expected to be retired upon delivery of the new buses. The new stop signs are of a modern design and will display current route and schedule information.

The local one-fifth share of the project cost is being provided by the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. George T. Grady, Chairman, Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky, P.O. Box 508, Eleventh and Lowell Streets, Newport, Kentucky 41072 (UMTA Project No. KY-03-0008)

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