



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 1974

UMTA 82-74

Phone: (202) 426-4043

The U. S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced a grant of \$4.24 million to the City of Houston, Texas, to allow for the public acquisition of the privately owned Rapid Transit Lines, Inc. (RTL).

In making the announcement in Houston, UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer said, "it is altogether appropriate that Houston along with similar cities in the country, is becoming more aware of the importance of public transportation. We look forward to working with Houston to improve its transit service."

The RTL serves Houston and its surrounding communities. The system has 31 routes comprising 760 route miles. Service is provided between 5:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. seven days a week.

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As in most parts of the country, ridership declined following World War II, and an increase in patronage was evidenced only in the latter part of 1973. Houston's program for expanded and improved transit service will make the system more accessible to all its patrons.

The UMTA grant of \$4.24 million will be matched by a local one-fifth share of approximately \$1 million by the City of Houston.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Thomas B. Tyson, Director of Public Service, City Hall, Houston, Texas 77001, (713) 222-3601. (UMTA Project No. TX-03-0021)

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