



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY
December 27, 1974

UMTA 141-74
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced an \$8,033,516 grant to the Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation of Indianapolis, Indiana. The grant is designed to assist in the public acquisition of a local transit system and other improvements to public transportation in the Indianapolis area.

The privately-owned Indianapolis Transit System is being purchased, along with 60 new 49-53 passenger, air-conditioned diesel transit buses and related transit equipment. Included are two vans with wheelchair lifts, six supervisory vehicles, 100 bus stop signs, 25 bus stop shelters, cleaning equipment, and office and shop equipment. Seventy-seven buses, presently in use, will be painted, repaired and equipped with environmental improvement equipment. The buses range from six to nine years of age.

Because of a steady decline in ridership and heavy operating losses over the past five years the dominant private transit carrier found continuation of service unprofitable and undesirable. The Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation, a public agency, was formed to assume responsibility for maintaining transit service in the area. In addition, the Corporation plans two types of special service to the elderly and handicapped. One is a weekly express service from elderly inhabited housing units to shopping and medical centers. It will operate during off-peak hours. The other is a demand-responsive service which will use two

van type vehicles equipped with wheel chair lifts.

The Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation is providing the local one-fifth share of the total project cost.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Chuck Simpson, Executive Officer, Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation, Circle Tower Building, Room 612, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, (317) 634-7094. (UMTA Project No. IN-03-0022)

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