



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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UMTA 75-15

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Acting Secretary of Transportation John W. Barnum today announced two grants, totaling \$22,257,200 to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, (MBTA) Boston, Massachusetts. The grants were made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) to assist in capital improvement to both bus and rail segments of the Boston regional transit system.

The first grant for \$13,942,800 is the third in a series of plant modernization projects which are designed to upgrade the MBTA's physical plant. Rapid transit turnback facilities on the MBTA's Red Line at Harvard Square and relocation of the Harvard Square Substation are among the improvements being made. Other major items in the project are the restoration of the Green Line Elevated Structure from the North Portal to Lechmere, interlockings at Broadway and Andrew on the Red Line, and a computer-based power supervisory system to control current power flow from the transmission point to and between substations, and the establishment of a computerized scheduling system. The computerized scheduling system (RUCUS) was developed under the UMTA's research and development program. (UMTA Project No. MA-03-0031)

The second grant, for \$8,314,400, includes the construction and equipping of a North Central Maintenance bus facility to be located at the site of the existing MBTA Charlestown garage. The new North Central facility

will consolidate the maintenance operations of four separate facilities all of which have been in existence for more than 25 years.

Transit ridership in the Boston area is on the upswing. Further increases of approximately six percent per year are expected over the next five years. Implementation of the MBTA's maintenance consolidation and improvement program is essential in assuring improvement and expansion of current bus operations. (UMTA Project No. MA-03-0016)

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Joseph Kelly, General Manager, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, 500 Arborway, Boston Massachusetts 02130, (617) 727-5000. (UMTA Projects MA-03-0031 and MA-03-0016)

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