



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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UMTA 76-23
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A \$3,194,560 grant to the Transit Authority of Louisville and Jefferson County, Louisville, Kentucky, was announced today by U.S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman, Jr.

The grant was made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) to assist in the acquisition of the privately owned Prospect Bus Lines Company. New buses and related transit equipment also are being acquired.

"Improvements to public transportation systems are vital to this nation's goal of energy independence," Secretary Coleman said, "as Louisville, other communities also must assess their transit needs and act to improve accessibility to public transit within their jurisdictions."

UMTA Administrator Robert E. Patricelli noted that the acquisition follows the adopted Louisville metropolitan transit improvement program, an UMTA funded transit study to bring the area's entire transit operation under public ownership. In addition to acquiring the private company, the grant helps in the purchase of 36 new 47-passenger diesel transit buses, five smaller gasoline powered buses, and related bus transit equipment.

Three of the smaller buses are being specially designed for elderly and handicapped persons. These buses are being equipped with intercommunications systems, wheelchair lifts, stepwell lights, air-conditioners and illuminated destination signs.

Service improvements include expansion of local routes to serve areas in Louisville and Jefferson County not presently being served, new express routes to outlying areas, and more frequent headways on present local routes.

The Transit Authority of Louisville and Jefferson County is providing the local share of the project cost.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Bobby Griffin, Director of Planning, Transit Authority of Louisville and Jefferson County, 302 Speed Building, 333 Guthrie, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, (502) 587-3642. (UMTA Project No. KY-03-0011).

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