



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

NEWS

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FOR FRIDAY RELEASE
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UMTA 76-44

A \$1,410,816 Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant to help purchase a fleet of 25 new buses for the Waterbury, Connecticut Transit System was announced today by Robert E. Patricelli, UMTA Administrator.

The award was made to the Connecticut Department of Transportation for operation by Waterbury's North East Transportation Company.

Patricelli noted that most of the buses in operation are over 19 years old, and costly to maintain. "I am pleased," Patricelli said, "that we can help provide improved service and add to the comfort of the many passengers who have strongly supported mass transit in Waterbury."

The new diesel-powered, air-conditioned buses will be designed to facilitate their use by handicapped and elderly patrons. Padded stanchions, non-skid flooring and special lighting at entrances and exits are expected to improve access to the buses for many older persons.

In addition to the new replacement buses, new fare boxes and spare engine parts also are being bought.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation is providing the local one-fifth share of the project cost from state bonds.

Additional local information is available from Mr. John Sullivan, Federal Aid Coordinator, Connecticut Department of Transportation, 24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109, (203) 566-2600. (UMTA Project No. CT-03-0014).

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