NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 76-98

An \$8,335,000 grant to assist with operating expenses of the Port Authority of Allegheny County's bus and local rail transit system serving the Pittsburgh area, was announced today by Robert E. Patricelli, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA).

The Federal formula funds for operating assistance are being made available under Section 5 provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended by the National Mass Transportation Assistance Act of 1974.

Patricelli pointed out that a portion of the Federal funds "will enable the Port Authority of Allegheny County to continue its efforts to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its mass transit operations." The Federal grant "also makes possible the development of new transit services and reallocation of existing services through an ongoing route revenue/cost analysis," he added.

The Administrator noted that, since inception of the Federal program, the Pittsburgh metropolitan area has received \$18.6 million for operating assistance and \$101.0 million for capital improvements to the system which operates 978 buses and 95 light rail cars. He commended public officials and community leaders in the Pittsburgh area for their continuing efforts to increase public transportation ridership. The Port Authority Transit system carried 109.6 million passengers last year, an increase of 4.8 percent over the previous year.

A local source of additional information is Mr. Russell W. Cunningham, Director of Administration and Finance, Port Authority of Allegheny County, Beaver and Island Avenues, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15233, (412) 237-7070. (PA-05-4032).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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