



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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U. S. Secretary of Transportation Claude S.

Brinegar today announced a grant of \$51,120,000 to the New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA) for the construction of 2 1/2 miles of the Archer Avenue subway line. Administered by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), the grant marks continued Federal assistance to NYCTA's New Routes Program.

In making the announcement, Secretary Brinegar said, "today's grant brings UMTA funding for New York's rail transit system to a total of nearly \$400,000,000." "However," the Secretary added, "this is only the beginning of Federal participation in NYCTA's efforts to offer its riders more comprehensive, responsive service." UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that the subway extensions planned under the New Routes program are expected to be carrying passengers by 1980 and will cost an estimated \$3.1 billion.

The new Archer Avenue Line will offer many immediate benefits. Part of the new tracking will take the place of an elevated portion of line presently running down the main

thoroughfare of the Jamaica business district. The elevated track and stations have had a depressing effect on the area and their removal is expected to guarantee the success of a five-block redevelopment program planned for downtown Jamaica. Three new stations built as part of the Archer Avenue Line will serve the Jamaica Hospital and business district and will offer convenient transfer access to the Long Island Rail Road. York College, a division of New York City University currently under construction, also will benefit from the new extension.

The local one-fifth share of the total project cost is being provided by the City and State of New York.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Sidney Brandes, Executive Office Construction, NYCTA, 370 Jay Street, Brooklyn, New York, telephone (212) 262-8505 (UMTA Project No. NY-03-0051)

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