



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE MONDAY 4:30 P.M.
October 6, 1975

UMTA 75-100
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U. S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman, Jr., today announced a \$4, 360, 625 grant to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency of Cleveland, Ohio.

The award supplements a previous Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$1, 846, 937 for eligible operating expenses of the Cleveland Transit System for the local fiscal year ending December 31, 1975.

Secretary Coleman noted the grant is being awarded under Section 5 provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended late last year.

"The Federal role," Secretary Coleman said, "in helping urbanized areas with local operating expenses presents Americans an unexcelled opportunity to use public transportation as a means of conserving energy. It is imperative," he added, "for us to make the best possible use of our remaining energy resources."

UMTA Administrator Robert E. Patricelli noted the grant follows assurance by State and local governments that non-fare box tax revenues will be maintained for provisions of mass transportation services on a level equal to or exceeding assistance provided for the two preceding local fiscal years. Other requirements are to improve or continue service and to establish a procedure for charging not more than one-half of the peak hour fare to elderly and handicapped persons during non-peak hours.

Section 5 grants are awarded to urbanized areas on a statutory formula apportionment basis. It provides for Federal funding up to 50 percent of operating assistance and up to 80 percent of capital assistance projects. Transit systems are given the opportunity to assess

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total transit service needs and make the necessary trade-off decisions between capital and operating expenses.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Leonard Ronis, General Manager, Cleveland Transit System, 1404 East 9th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114, (216) 781-5100. (UMTA Project No. OH-05-4002-01)

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