## NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY July 16, 1975

UMTA 75-74

Phone: (202) 426-4043

U.S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman, Jr., today announced a \$25,040,000 Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant for construction of the Airport High-Speed Rail Line connecting the Philadelphia International Airport with downtown Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"The major expansion and improvement program for the airport, including access to downtown Philadelphia," Secretary Coleman said, "is vital to the continued growth and well-being of the entire metropolitan community."

The grant supplements a previous award of \$30 million and will allow completion of the project which was initially approved last year.

The project includes purchase and installation of a radio communication system, purchase and installation of miscellaneous equipment, right-of-way acquisition, construction of stations and other facilities, rehabilitation of right-of-way and related tasks.

Acting UMTA.Administrator Judith T. Connor noted that the Airport Line will be accessible to elderly and handicapped persons, including those restricted to wheelchairs. High-level platforms and elevators are being provided at all station locations. In addition, ramps, wide walkways, handrails, special identification markers and other features specifically to aid elderly and handicapped patrons will be provided.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and city of Philadelphia are providing the local one-fifth share of the total project cost.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. William J. Grabske, Deputy to the Mayor for Transportation, Municipal Services Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (215) MU6-7088. (UMTA Project No. PA-03-0043-01).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION
Washington, D.C. 20590

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