



**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

**URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATION**

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

NEWS

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FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY
July 16, 1975

UMTA 75-75
Phone: (202) 426-4043

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr., today announced a \$25 million grant to the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for pre-construction activities on the Center City Tunnel.

The grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), provides assistance for property acquisition and relocation, final design engineering and other activities that will precede actual construction of the tunnel. The tunnel, which will be 1.8 miles in length, will connect Suburban Station, a new underground Reading Terminal Station in downtown Philadelphia, and the existing Reading Railroad elevated track.

In announcing the grant, Secretary Coleman said: "Federal assistance, by laying the groundwork for the Center City Tunnel, will significantly help to improve future mobility for the citizens of greater Philadelphia."

Philadelphia area residents make about 600,000 daily trips into the central business district, with about 116,000 involving the commuter rail network.

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

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For additional information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. William J. Grabske, Deputy to the Mayor for Transportation, City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107, telephone (215) 686-7088. (UMTA Project No. PA-03-0013).

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