



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

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URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY
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UMTA 76-52

Robert E. Patricelli, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced a \$9,117,072 grant to Cincinnati, Ohio, to assist in the purchase of 124 new 50 to 55-passenger air-conditioned, diesel-powered transit buses and related bus transit equipment.

Patricelli praised local officials for their efforts to increase public transit ridership. "The dramatic increase in ridership from 21 million passengers in 1971 to 28 million last year is a result of the strong determination by local officials and community residents to support improved public transportation."

The increase in ridership after public acquisition of the privately owned system in August 1973 is attributed to both lower fares, instituted at the time of the public takeover, as well as to extensive service improvements.

"Cincinnati continues to emphasize better transit service," Patricelli added, noting that "thirteen of the new coaches are for two new routes and expansion of service on five existing routes." The remaining 111 new buses will replace vehicles from 15 to 22 years old.

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In addition to the new buses the grant provides for the purchase of 31 fare boxes, 184 two-way radios, 50 bus stop benches and seven supervisory vehicles.

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A local source for additional information is Mr. Ed Harvey, 617 Central Avenue, Page Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, (513) 621-9450. (UMTA Project No. OH-03-0051).

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