



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY
June 10, 1976

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UMTA 76- 55

An \$11,172,532 grant to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), for operating assistance was announced today by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration Robert E. Patricelli. The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant is being awarded under Section 5 provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended.

Patricelli said it is the second such grant to help cover operating expenses in the Boston urbanized area. "I am especially pleased", the Administrator added, "with Boston's definition of handicapped for purposes of half-fare certification. Their definition could very well serve as a model for other systems' half-fare programs."

Under the Section 5 provisions the applicant assures that the rates charged elderly and handicapped persons during nonpeak hours will not exceed one-half of the rates generally applicable to other persons at peak hours. Other provisions require that service be continued or improved and that local subsidies must be maintained at a level equal to or greater than the local assistance provided for the two previous local fiscal years.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Construction and local jurisdictions are providing the local share of the net project cost.

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A local source for additional information is Mr. Robert R. Kelly, Chairman, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, 500 Arborway, Boston, Massachusetts 02130, (617) 722-5176. (UMTA Project No. MA-05-4006)

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