



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

### **URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY  
June 24, 1975

UMTA 75-53  
Phone: (202) 426-4043

U. S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman Jr., today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$5,306,936 to the San Diego Transit Corporation for transit improvements in San Diego, California.

The grant is designed to assist in the purchase of 45 articulated buses, communications equipment, fareboxes, service vehicles and related bus transit equipment.

The new 70-passenger articulated coaches are for service on four high density routes characterized by short trip patterns. Because of overcrowded conditions on the 51-passenger buses now in service on these routes, further ridership growth is not possible. The larger buses allow more passengers per bus trip in a roomier, more comfortable atmosphere. The new vehicles are equipped with three doors, each having a width of four feet to allow easier and faster boarding and exiting of passengers.

The 45 standard coaches being replaced by the articulated units on the four routes are to be placed in service on 12 other routes to alleviate crowding with the resulting upgrading and improved service on all 16 routes.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that a consortium of transit operators are cooperating in the preparation of a master specification under which one large order will be placed to effect the greatest possible savings in the cost of the vehicles.

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Advantages of the articulated vehicles over standard 51-passenger coaches are a 37 percent greater seating capacity, reduced boarding and egress times, reduced total trip time due to reduced boarding and exiting time, energy savings due to increased passenger capacity relative to fuel consumption and reduced labor costs due to a higher passenger to driver ratio.

The San Diego Transit Corporation is providing the local one-fifth share of the total project cost.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Tom Prior, General Manager, San Diego Transit Corporation, P.O. Box 2511, San Diego, California 92112, (714) 238-0100. (UMTA Project No. CA-03-0104).

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URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION  
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The AMF vehicle is powered by conventional means, or by steam and the SPS vehicle will be powered by steam.



## Dial-A-Ride

Another form of paratransit which UMTA has pioneered, and has gone from the R&D stage to full operation is Dial-A-Ride.

