



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY

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UMTA 75-57

Phone: (202) 426-4043

U. S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman Jr., today announced an \$11,315,304 Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant to AC Transit, Oakland, California, to assist in the purchase of 121 buses and other improvements.

AC Transit furnishes local and express bus service in 11 cities and surrounding unincorporated areas in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties on the east side of San Francisco Bay. The service area covers approximately 175 miles and includes a population of over one million persons.

Secretary Coleman noted that the AC Transit system and the BART system are coordinating their schedules to assure the greatest mobility for San Francisco's Bay Area transit users.

Of the 121 new buses, 80 are replacements for a like number of 26 year old coaches. The other 41 buses are for expanded service in the Fremont/Newark area south of AC's regular area of service. The proposed new service consists of a coordinated mix of dial-a-ride and six fixed-routes to connect with BART stations in Union City and Fremont. Ten 50-passenger and 31 new 35-passenger buses will be used in this service.

The 80 replacement vehicles include 30 new articulated coaches capable of carrying up to 70 seated passengers each. The articulated vehicles are to be included in a large bus order being placed by a consortium of California transit operators.

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Also included in the project are the purchase of fareboxes, radios, supervisory vehicles, bus stop shelters, signs and benches, various remodeling projects and related bus transit equipment.

Secretary Coleman expressed disappointment that city and county priorities did not allow Federal-Aid Urban funds to be used in this worthwhile mass transit project. By local option, highway funds have been available for mass transit purposes since passage of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, in August 1973.

AC Transit is providing the local one-fifth share of the total project cost through California State Transportation Funds.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Lawrence Rosenberg, AC Transit, 508 16th Street, Oakland, California 94612, (415) 654-7878 ext. 202. (UMTA Project No. CA-03-0105).

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