



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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UMTA 76- 67

Seven grants totaling \$27,730,996 for public transit improvements in the San Francisco Bay area were announced today by Robert E. Patricelli, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation (UMTA).

Two grants are to complete new construction and rebuilding of San Francisco's Municipal Railway (MUNI) rail car and trolley coach electrical systems, and for other system improvements to the Washington-Mason Cable Car Division. One grant is to assist the Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) on system engineering of a third track, signalling and electrical equipment through Oakland. The four additional grants are to help cover eligible operating expenses of public transportation systems in the San Francisco area.

In announcing the grants, the UMTA Administrator commended the local authorities "for a comprehensive program to provide San Francisco residents and commuters with reliable public transportation at a reasonable cost." He added, "MUNI, with more than 110 million passengers a year, is one of the nation's most heavily used transit systems."

"Today's grants," Patricelli said, "will substantially improve both operating reliability and the attractiveness of public transportation in the Bay area."

He noted that \$26,781,658 has been previously awarded by UMTA to the Public Utilities Commission for MUNI's power improvement program.

The first grant to MUNI of \$9,676,000 is for completion of electrical improvements to the MUNI system. When completed the improved electrical system will serve 35 miles of subway-surface rail car lines and more than 80 miles of trolley of trolley coach lines. (CA-03-0056-01)

The second grant of \$3,459,136, also for MUNI improvements, is to assist in the purchase of 494 radios, shop and office equipment, supervisory vehicles, engineering services and improvements to the Washington - Mason Cable Car Division. (CA-03-0078-01)

A third grant of \$3,651,832 to the Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) provides for final engineering of a portion of undeveloped track and associated structures extending from south of MacArthur station through the 19th and 12th Street stations. It also includes the purchase of a diesel locomotive, an ultra-sonic rail test car, railroad flat cars, service vehicles and related rail transit equipment. (CA-03-0116)

The remaining four grants are to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for operating assistance, as follows:

A \$5,957,228 grant helps cover eligible operating expenses of the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976. (CA-05-4036)

A \$4,052,389 grant helps cover eligible operating expenses of the Santa Clara County Transit District from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976. (CA-05-4038)

A \$534,411 grant helps cover eligible operating expenses of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976. (CA-05-4041)

The fourth grant of \$400,000 helps cover eligible operating expenses of the Bay Area Rapid Transit District from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976. (CA-05-4037)

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A local source for information on the Public Utilities Commission grants is Dr. John Christensen, 287 City Hall, San Francisco, California 94102, (415) 558-4986; for BART, Mr. William Hein, Director of Planning, 800 Madison Street, Oakland, California 94607 (415) 465-4100; and for the Metropolitan Planning Commission, Mr. Paul C. Watt, Executive Director, Claremont Hotel, Berkeley, California 94705, (415) 849-3223.