



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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DENVER, COLORADO RECEIVES \$20 MILLION
FEDERAL GRANT FOR BUS TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT

A \$20,418,024 grant to the Denver Regional Transportation District to assist in the purchase of 160 new transit buses, acquisition of land, construction of park and ride lots and maintenance facilities, and related bus transit improvements was announced today by Robert E. Patricelli, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA).

Patricelli said, "Approval of this \$20.4 million grant represents a first step in fulfilling UMTA's commitment to assist Denver in realizing significant bus transit improvements. The joint efforts of the Regional Transit District and the Colorado Department of Highways to enhance public transportation operations through coordinated transportation system management approaches are especially important to continued UMTA funding."

The grant provides assistance in the purchase of 120 new air-conditioned 50-passenger diesel-powered transit buses, 40 new 35-passenger buses and 12 additional used coaches specially equipped to serve elderly and handicapped patrons. The grant also provides for the acquisition of land and design of maintenance facilities, a bus transfer facility, park and ride lots and other improvements. The grant also provides for the purchase of 222 mobile two-way radios, 52 registering fareboxes, 14 service vehicles, 4,000 bus passenger stop signs, 200 bus destination signs and related equipment.

This is the third grant this year on behalf of Denver's systematic bus replacement program to introduce new equipment as recommended in the region's six-year Transportation Improvement Program. The three grants totaling \$25,190,381 provide for the purchase of 231 new buses. Upon delivery of the buses 148 coaches presently in use will be retired with the remaining 83 buses to be used for expanded service.

Including today's grant the UMTA commitment to better transportation in Denver now totals \$58.5 million.

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A local source for additional information is Mr. John D. Simpson, General Manager, Regional Transportation District, 1325 S. Colorado Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80222, (303) 759-1000. (CO-03-0010)

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