



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY  
March 6, 1974

UMTA 34-74  
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Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$1,118,496 to the City of Manchester, New Hampshire, to assist in the acquisition of assets of Manchester Transit Company, Inc. The privately owned system is a subsidiary of Union Street Railway Company, Inc. Manchester becomes the 120th city in which the Department has assisted in stabilizing or preserving a transportation system through UMTA's capital grant program. In addition to acquiring the company, 29 new 45-passenger buses, 32 registering locked fareboxes, 750 bus stop signs and spare bus components will be purchased.

"The Nation's public transportation systems have been deteriorating for over two decades," Secretary Brinegar said, "But with the Federal help now available, cities like Manchester can finally reverse this downward trend and provide reasonable mobility for its citizens," the Secretary added.

Manchester's aging bus fleet averages over twenty years old with many of the buses approaching thirty years. Since the privately owned company ceased operations in July 1973, the system has been operated by the Manchester Transit Authority.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that the increased reliability and greater comfort of the new buses will make significant improvements in the image of public transportation in Manchester. The new buses will replace a like number of older buses now in service and are expected to result in substantially lower maintenance costs and increased ridership.

The one-fifth local share of the project cost is being provided by the City of Manchester

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Sylvio Dupuis, Mayor, City of Manchester, 908 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101 (UMTA Project No. NH 03-0001)

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