



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

# NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE MONDAY  
May 12, 1975

UMTA 75-39  
Phone: (202) 426-4043

U.S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman, Jr., today announced a \$17,140,400 grant to Milwaukee County, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Federal grant includes funds for the acquisition of the physical assets of the Milwaukee and Suburban Transportation Corporation, one of the last major privately owned transit systems in the United States.

The grant, made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), also includes the purchase of 100 new 49-53 passenger transit buses, installation of 105 new two-way radios, base communications station and related bus transit equipment.

Secretary Coleman said, "The Administration's increasing commitment to urban transportation as a means of conserving energy, reducing pollution and congestion and improving accessibility to jobs and governmental services for the urban poor is a vital concern of all Americans."

Escalating fares and declining ridership, prevalent in the Milwaukee area over the past several years, are expected to be stabilized and eventually reverse as the new equipment is received and plans for improved service are implemented.

UMTA Administrator, Frank C. Herringer noted that the grant will directly benefit the area's elderly and handicapped persons. The new buses are being equipped with all standard items such as stanchions, non-slip flooring and high intensity interior lighting to aid the movement of the aged and infirm. The 100 new air-conditioned

buses replace a like number of 18 year old and older buses presently in service. The two-way voice communication radio system provides, for the first time in Milwaukee's history, communication between buses and garages and should substantially improve system reliability.

Milwaukee County is providing the local one-fifth share of the total project cost.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Robert Brannan, Director of Public Works, Milwaukee County Courthouse, 901 North 9th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233, (414) 278-4881. (UMTA Project No. WI-03-0005)

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