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DOT AWARDS \$108 MILLION FOR ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT

Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams today announced a grant of \$108,136,000 to complete the design and construction of a 13.7 mile segment of Atlanta's rapid rail transit system.

"The grant is a landmark in the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) capital grant program," Adams said. "It completes the first 'full funding' commitment made by UMTA which has since become a prototype for all major urban mass transportation investments."

The 'full funding' concept provides an upper limit Federal commitment on design and construction of fixed guideway transit systems and other transit projects requiring a major Federal investment. It considers the merits of each proposed project, the demand on available resources from other urban areas, the degree of local fiscal effort in support of improved public transportation, past Federal transit assistance, urban area size, current and projected transit ridership and several other factors.

Adams commended the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit (MARTA) for their "exemplary" progress and expressed confidence that "the system will be completed on schedule and within budget."

He told transit officials gathered in Atlanta for the transit industry's annual conference that "the grant will allow construction of the Phase A 13.7 mile-17 station system to continue on schedule."

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