URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY December 4, 1973

UMTA 73-102 Phone: (202) 426-4043

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced the award of \$191,950 in supplemental funds to the University of Massachusetts, to support its demonstration of free bus service.

In 1972 the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) made a \$475,441 grant to the University to help fund a demonstration project to encourage students and other commuters in the Amherst area to use free bus service, instead of their automobiles.

Secretary Brinegar said, "The project will determine the impact of free bus transportation, coupled with restricted automobile parking, and auto-free zones, on the use of the automobile by commuters. The project is being closely monitored because of its national relevance to the energy crisis." The project is well underway, service having been initiated during the University's 1973 spring term.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer noted that the additional funding reflects operating costs for an improved free bus service, including 3 additional buses and an increased capability to relate its findings to potential fare free services in Communities elswhere in the country.

A final project report will be published and made available to transit operators early in 1974.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or the University of Massachusetts, 85 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass. 02109. (UMTA Project No. MA-06-0006)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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