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news:



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UMTA 78-75
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METRO SEATTLE AWARDED \$15.8 MILLION DOT GRANT

Two grants totaling more than \$15.8 million for transit improvements in Seattle, Wash., were announced today by Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams.

An \$8,356,560 grant to the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle will provide funds for the construction of the Central Operating Base at the present Atlantic Street facility. The base consists of a new maintenance building, new wash and fuel building and bus parking. The facility is designed to accommodate 200 buses.

The Seattle transit plan calls for four new operating bases: East, South, Central and North. The East facility has been completed. The South facility is nearing completion, and construction on the North facility has not begun.

This project also includes construction of trolley overhead wires in the central maintenance yard.

A \$7.5 million grant, also to the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle, will help continue Metro's capital improvement program.

Those funds are earmarked for purchase of land for two park-and-ride lots, construction of four other park-and-ride lots, bus shelters, and rehabilitation and expansion of the trolley bus overhead wire system.

This grant brings the total commitment by the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) to \$97.7 million for the capital improvement program. Major components of this program include the purchase of 605 new buses, construction of maintenance facilities, park-and-ride lots and Metro flyer stops, and rehabilitation of the trolley bus electrification system.

The four park-and-ride lots to be built are located at Bothell, Kenmore, White Center and South Kirkland. Kenmore and Bothell are scheduled to open in November. The land purchases are for park-and-ride lots at Sherwood Forest and South Kirkland.

The 20 percent local share for this grant comes from Metro sales tax revenues and motor vehicle excise taxes.

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A local contact for additional information is Neil Peterson, Executive Director or Maureen Varni, Grants Officer, Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle, 821 Second Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98104, (206) 447-6879. (WA-03-0016-05 and WA-05-0006)

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