

U.S. Department of Transportation

news:



Office of Assistant Secretary for Governmental and Public Affairs

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FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY
Jan. 17, 1979

DOT AWARDS \$28 MILLION
TO BUFFALO TRANSIT SYSTEM

UMTA 4-79
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Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams today announced a \$28 million grant to assist in the continued construction of the Buffalo, N.Y., light rail transit system.

This grant brings to \$86 million DOT's support to date of the 6.5-mile light rail project.

The \$28 million grant, awarded by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration to the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, will be used for construction of the transit line's south tunnel, for purchase of electrical equipment for power substations and for final design work on various elements of the project.

The project was begun on June 10, 1976, when the Department made a "commitment in principle" to the construction of a light rail system in the Buffalo urban area. In September 1976, UMTA approved an \$8,000,000 grant for the initiation of final design and engineering plans, and in September 1978, an additional \$50,000,000 was approved for design engineering and initial construction of the north line tunnel section.

A local source for additional information is Chester R. Hardt, Chairman, Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA), 181 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, New York 14205 (716) 855-7363. (NY-03-0072-02).

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