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BALTIMORE GETS \$70 MILLION FOR TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS

Grants totaling \$70,773,309 to assist Baltimore in its mass transit program were announced today by Transportation Secretary Brock Adams.

"These grants demonstrate our ongoing commitment to aid Baltimore and other cities in their public transit programs. Good public transportation is a key building block to revitalizing our nation's cities and providing an acceptable alternative to the automobile," Secretary Adams said.

Included are funds for further construction of Baltimore's rapid transit system, full-size advanced design bus purchase, special van purchase for elderly and handicapped service and operating assistance.

In the ceremony held in Baltimore, Richard S. Page, Administrator of the department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration stated: "We are pleased to announce these awards to Baltimore today. The MTA has shown real leadership in developing a cost effective, well-rounded transportation system. The awards announced today reflect the department's concern for providing safe reliable service for all, while pursuing the President's aggressive fight against inflation."

The grants announced today are as follows:

- \$50,000,000 for additional construction on Baltimore's rail transit system.

- more -

- \$4,429,820 to assist in the purchase of 10 additional lift-equipped vans and 41 ADB's (Advanced Design Buses).
- An arrangement to transfer 10 elderly and handicapped vans from a private non-profit agency to MTA.
- \$15,328,289 for operating assistance.
- \$1,015,200 for operating assistance.

A local source for further information is Bruce Frame, Director of Marketing, Mass Transit Administration, 109 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. (301) 383-3434. (MD-03-0018, MD-05-0002, MD-05-4005-02, MD-05-4009, MD-03-0004-07).

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