

U. S. Department of Transportation

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DOT AWARDS \$13 MILLION FOR PHILADELPHIA RAIL CARS

Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams announced today a grant of \$13,840,000 to assist Philadelphia in the purchase of 141 light rail vehicles and related equipment.

This grant brings to \$70 million DOT's support of Philadelphia's light rail system.

The \$13 million grant, awarded by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration represents a second amendment to the original grant issued by UMTA in June 1974.

The original grant for \$4,288,080 was issued by UMTA in June 1974 to help rehabilitate 156 trolley cars and for engineering and design of new light rail vehicles. An amendment to that grant was made in October 1978 to help design and construct new maintenance facilities and to assist the purchase of the new cars.

The light rail vehicle is a modern version of the streetcar. New vehicles are scheduled to begin in operation in 1981 on the streets of Southwest Philadelphia, in the subway-surface system in the central business district and on the Media and Sharon Hill lines of SEPTA's Red Arrow Division in suburban Delaware County.

A local source for additional information is Peter V. Young, Assistant General Manager for Planning and Development; Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority; 12 South 12th Street; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107. (215) 574-7388. (PA-23-9001-03).

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