NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 73-62

Phone: (202) 426-4043

The Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) grant of \$1,103,933 to the Tri-State Transit Authority (TTA) of Huntington, West Virginia to assist in the acquisition of the privately-owned Ohio Valley Bus Company, the purchase of 28 new 31-35 passenger buses, land and construction for a new maintenance and administration facility and the purchase of new garage and shop equipment.

Urban Mass Transportation Administration Frank C. Herringer pointed out that this new urban service would have the unusual aspect of serving three cities in three different states formerly served by the Ohio Valley Bus Company. The area includes Huntington, West Virginia, Ashland, Kentucky and Ironton, Ohio. Herringer noted that this kind of inter-city and inter-state cooperation was in keeping with President Nixon's policy of placing decision-making in the hands of the local officials. He added that the new buses will improve the quality and reliability of the service and aid in preventing the further diversion of bus riders to private automobiles by halting the inevitable downward spiral that results from increased fares and reduced service.

A contribution of 13 1/3% by the Appalachian Regional Commission will increase the total Federal share to 80%, and the local 20% will be provided by the City of Huntington and the Camell County Court.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. John P. Quarles, President, Tri-State Transit Authority, P.O. Box 2468, Huntington, West Virginia 25725. (UMTA Project No. WV-03-0001)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Official Business

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