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DOT AWARDS $118.5 MILLION
TO UPGRADE NEW YORK'S
MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM

NEW YORK -- Secretary of Transportation Neil Goldschmidt today announced awards to New York City totaling $118.5 million for system-wide modernization of that city's rail rapid and bus transit system.

The federal money will be applied to the second phase of the city's three-year program of upgrading the bus and rail system with emphasis on passenger safety and comfort.

"The nation has an immense investment in urban transportation facilities, and that investment must be protected," Secretary Goldschmidt said. "The way to protect it is to continue to maintain, renovate and modernize those systems so they will be able to meet the public need for transportation services.

A grant of $72.9 million will help rehabilitate mainline track, maintenance facilities, power substations, communications equipment and other facilities.

A second grant of $15.2 million will cover design and engineering costs of future improvements to the system.

Federal funding of the rail modernization program during the first two years to date amounts to $155.88 million.

An additional grant of $30,452,000 is for the purchase of up to 229 advanced design buses, support vehicles, shop tools, bus washers and related bus transit improvements.

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The grants were made by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration to the New York City Transit Authority.

A local source for additional information is Mr. Reese Stone, Director of Public Affairs, New York City Transit Authority, 370 Jay Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, (212) 330-3374.