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DOT FUNDS PITTSBURGH RAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Pittsburgh, Pa.--Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Theodore C. Lutz today announced two awards totaling nearly \$21 million for improvements to the Pittsburgh light and commuter rail transit systems.

A grant of \$18 million supplements previous awards of \$43,325,280 for initial funding to upgrade the Pittsburgh light rail transit system.

Included in today's grant are engineering and land acquisition for the Midtown light rail transit station at Grant Street and 5th Avenue in Pittsburgh's central business district. The grant also includes funding for the purchase and installation of equipment, relocation of utilities and businesses and right-of-way construction.

The second grant of \$2,925,000 supplements previous awards of \$3,582,736 for the rehabilitation of ten commuter rail cars and purchase of two rebuilt locomotives. It also provides for land acquisition engineering, design and construction of the McKeesport intermodal terminal. In addition, the project includes engineering, design and construction of four commuter rail stations, located near Versailles, Liberty-Port Vue, Braddock Street and Grant Street.

Today's funding will allow the award of contracts for rehabilitation of the commuter rail cars, purchase of locomotives, and completion of the McKeesport terminal construction.

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A local source for additional information is Theodore C. Hardy, Director, Division of Construction and Development, Port Authority of Allegheny County, Beaver and Island Avenues, Pittsburgh, PA 15233, (412) 237-7357. (PA-03-0095-02 and PA-03-0059-03).

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