

# U.S. Department of Transportation news:



Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE MONDAY  
September 22, 1980

UMTA 29-80

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DOT FUNDS DETROIT  
TRANSIT PROJECTS

Detroit, Mich.--Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Theodore C. Lutz today announced the award of four grants totaling \$22,460,768 to the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority for rail and bus transit improvements in metropolitan Detroit.

Lutz noted the grants provide assistance for a wide variety of projects ranging from the purchase of small buses, to engineering on the Cadillac Mall project and light rail transit line and commuter rail improvements.

A grant of \$5 million provides assistance for preliminary engineering of a light rail transit line in Detroit's Woodward corridor. This is the first grant of a multi-phase engineering effort designed to produce detailed information on the costs and impacts of the proposed light rail project in this corridor. This engineering activity is necessary to help determine the comprehensive Federal and non-Federal financial commitment to the project.

A second grant of \$5 million aids in financing the transit portion of Detroit's Cadillac Mall which includes land acquisition and construction of right-of-way linking the mall to various transit services. It is directly tied to Detroit's proposed downtown people mover projects.

The grant is being made as part of President Carter's Urban Initiative Program which uses financial assistance for mass transit projects to stimulate investment in urban improvements by federal agencies, private industry and local communities.

A third grant of \$10,460,768 provides funding for expansion of the Troy bus garage and rehabilitation of four other Detroit Department of Transportation garage facilities.

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It also includes funding for the purchase of 55 small buses for replacement and expansion of Detroit's demand responsive fleet. The new buses are needed to improve the mobility of elderly and handicapped persons.

The grant also helps buy bus passenger shelters, bus stop signs and related transit equipment.

A fourth grant of \$2 million assists in completing construction of improvements to the Ojista commuter rail yard, rehabilitation of one diesel-powered locomotive and other commuter rail improvements.

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A local source for additional information is Mr. Larry Salci, General Manager, Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority, 600 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226, telephone (313) 256-8600.

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