



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a grant of \$40 million to the New York City Transit Authority to help purchase an additional 202 new subway cars, bringing the number of new rail transit cars recently approved for New York to 522.

In addition, the Secretary also announced a \$200,000 grant to Poughkeepsie, New York, to help that city buy six new air-conditioned buses and make related transit improvements.

Both grants were made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), under President Nixon's Urban Mass Transportation Assistance Act of 1970, "which is now providing about \$1 billion a year in Federal funds to help cities all across the Nation save and upgrade their public transit systems," Secretary Volpe said.

Today's New York City grant is in addition to a similar UMTA grant for \$63,422,507 made in June to assist the Transit Authority purchase 320 new air-conditioned subway cars. The \$63 million grant was the largest single urban mass transportation grant ever made by UMTA, Secretary Volpe said.

"The combined Federal grants will now provide \$103,422,507 of the \$155,133,761 needed to buy the 522 new subway cars," the Secretary said. Local one-third funding will cover the remaining \$52 million purchase costs. The Transit Authority wants to buy a total of 750 new rail transit cars, all of them in the new R-46 class designation.

"These new subway cars will make travel in New York City more convenient," Secretary Volpe said. "They will replace outdated rail cars which were purchased between 1932 and 1940."

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said the new subway cars will be 75 feet long and will provide attractive interior and exterior design.

"Dependability of service will be enhanced by the addition of the 522 new R-46 subway cars," Administrator Villarreal said. The older R-1 through R-9 rail cars are subject to frequent breakdowns and provide an inadequate level of performance, which results in a poor level of service on lines served by those cars, the Administrator said.

"The new R-46 cars will be substantially quieter, both within the car and standing in the station," Mr. Villarreal said. "They combine the latest in technical and safety features, passenger comfort and pleasant interior design."

The second grant, to Poughkeepsie, will help that city buy six new 31 to 35 passenger buses, purchase bus stop signs and passenger shelters and buy other support equipment. In addition, part of the \$200,000 UMTA grant will be used to pay for converting a city garage into a bus maintenance facility, Administrator Villarreal said.

"This will be the first time the city itself will enter the transit business," the Administrator said. Although the city will own the new buses, they will be leased by Wayfarer Coach Lines, Inc., which is under contract to provide bus service for the city.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or the individual grantee. For additional information on the New York City grant (UMTA Project No. NY-03-0046), contact Mr. William J. Ronan, Chairman, New York City Transit Authority, 370 Jay Street, Brooklyn, New York. More facts on the Poughkeepsie grant (UMTA Project No. NY-03-0039) can be obtained by writing City Hall, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601.

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