



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UMTA 73-10

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The U. S. Department of Transportation recently announced seven grants for the improvement of urban mass transportation in four midwestern States. Four of these grants went to Illinois, while Indiana, Iowa, and Ohio received one award each.

The grants, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), ranged in amounts from less than \$25,000 to more than \$40 million.

The four Illinois grants were officially announced during mid-December and the three others were made public during January in each of the individual localities. However, today's publication is the first overall notice of the Government's recent efforts to upgrade mass transit on a national basis.

The grants will provide significant assistance in achieving both short and long range solutions to transit needs in urban midwestern cities.

The seven grants were made to the:

\* Northwest Suburban Mass Transit District -- \$20,876,702 -- to assist in the purchase of 26 new bi-level commuter cars, 13 diesel locomotives plus the purchase of 62 bi-level cars from the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company. (IL-03-0022)

\* Chicago Transit Authority -- \$40,460,500 -- an amendment to a previous grant to assist in financing CTA's capital improvements. Overall, this entire project will provide transit users in the Chicago area more than 1,000 new buses and 100 new rapid transit cars. One important item to be included is the upgrading of the CTA's safety signaling system. (IL-03-0024)

\* Chicago South Suburban Mass Transit District -- \$2,010,486 -- to assist in the purchase of 52 new 53-passenger, air-conditioned buses, spare components, a new money handling system, and renovation of 18 buses presently owned and operated by South Suburban Safeway, Inc. (IL-03-0025)

\* Greater Peoria Mass Transit District -- \$421,833 -- to assist in the purchase and renovation of maintenance and administrative facilities and to help buy office equipment, shop and maintenance equipment, bus stop shelters, and to construct a "park-n-ride" facility. (IL-03-0030)

\* Greater Lafayette Public Transportation Corporation -- \$963,600 -- to assist in the purchase of 26 new propane powered buses. Ten of the vehicles are mini-buses that will be used to inaugurate a manually dispatched dial-a-ride service, in which passengers telephone for a bus, during off peak hours. Also, five and one quarter acres of land will be acquired in conjunction with the construction of a new garage and storage facility. (IN-03-0011)

\* City of Waterloo, Iowa -- \$171,748 -- to assist in the purchase of land and construction of a new bus garage, purchase of four bus shelters, bus stop signs, fare boxes, and other equipment. Also, to assist in the air-conditioning of eight presently owned buses and the repainting of 15 buses. (IA-03-0009)

\* Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission -- \$23,381 -- to assist in funding a technical study that will provide information necessary to establish policies concerned with providing parking facilities on the fringe of the Columbus central business district. The relationship of fringe parking to the regional transit system also will be studied. (OH-09-0014)

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or contact the individual grantee. When calling or writing for information, please refer to the project number and to this press release number.

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