



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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UMTA 73-92
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The U.S. Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) today announced a grant of \$4,456,872 to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to assist in the structural rehabilitation of the Orange Line Elevated railway.

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar said "Today's grant is essential for MBTA to maintain reliable and safe rapid transit service along one of Boston's busiest transit corridors." The structure was built in the early 1900's. It carries over 76,000 passengers a day on 2-minute rush hour headways and 10-minute headways during off-peak periods.

Frank C. Herringer, UMTA Administrator noted that rehabilitation of the 4.5 mile segment between Forest Hills and Washington Street is part of an MBTA system-wide modernization program. Under this program Federal funds have been made available to modernize the Dudley Street and North Stations of the Orange Line. Patrons also will enjoy the use of 44 new cars which were part of another recently approved UMTA grant. In addition, the MBTA has committed itself to improving service along the northern segment of the Orange Line corridor by purchasing right-of-way from the Reading Line of the Boston and Maine Railroad, and constructing the "Haymarket-North" extension. It is anticipated that this facility will be open to the new Sullivan Square Station within a year.

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"The elevated structure provides the only means of transportation for many of the area's transit dependent riders, who along with the entire Orange Line Corridor will benefit from this ambitious MBTA undertaking", Administrator Herringer said.

Herringer noted that this would be the first capital grant awarded in Massachusetts under the new formula enacted as part of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973. Federal contributions amount to 80% and local sources contribute 20% of the net project cost.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or: Mr. Joseph Kelly, General Manager, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, 500 Arborway, Boston, Massachusetts 02130. (UMTA Project No. MA-03-0029)

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