



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

NEWS

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UMTA 73-96
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Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced an Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) supplemental grant of \$34,646,000 to the San Francisco Bay Rapid Transit District (BARTD), Oakland, California, for the purchase of 100 new rapid transit rail cars for the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system.

A 450 car fleet is needed to carry the estimated 200,000 commuters a day who are expected to use the system by 1975. Previous UMTA grants have assisted in the purchase of 350 new cars for the system -- the first major new rail transit undertaking in America since 1907.

"This first step, by the citizenry of the San Francisco Bay Area, in the revival and growth of high quality urban rail transit is serving as an example of community dedication and cooperation for improving public transportation in other cities throughout the nation," Secretary Brinegar said.

The first 28 mile segment of the system opened in September 1972, exclusively in the East Bay area. An additional 28 miles have since been opened to revenue service on the eastern side of the San Francisco Bay. That 56 mile portion of the system presently carries more than 35,000 persons daily.

In San Francisco, the first BART service was inaugurated this week; and the Transbay Tube which will connect Oakland with San Francisco is completed and awaiting approval of the California Public Utilities Commission prior to inauguration of service.

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"Including today's award, twelve capital grants have been made for the BART system for a total of \$289,298,495 to assist in constructing the 75 mile system in the San Francisco Bay Area," UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer said.

Local funds totaling \$8,661,600 will be added to today's 80 percent UMTA grant for a total of \$43,308,000 for the 100 car purchase.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or the San Francisco Bay Area Transit District, 800 Madison Street, Oakland, California 94607 (UMTA Project No. CA-03-0059-01).

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