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URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION
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The Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development have joined together to fund a \$750,000 Federal grant to help underwrite transportation costs of summer youth programs in 51 U.S. cities.

"Transportation is the crucial link between idle youths in the ghetto and jobs or cultural and recreational activities outside the center city," Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said.

"Many cities have programs providing summer jobs and recreational opportunities for inner city youths," Volpe continued, "but these opportunities are generally found in outer city or suburban areas. In all too many instances, these opportunities are wasted simply because inner city youths can't reach them."

The Federal demonstration grant, announced yesterday by Vice President Agnew, was made to the National League of Cities, which, along with the U.S. Conference of Mayors, will conduct the project.

The total cost of the project is \$1,000,000, with the cities contributing 25 percent. Participating cities are:

	Akron Atlanta Baltimore Birmingham Boston Buffalo Chicago Cincinnati Cleveland Columbus, Ohio Dallas	Dayton Denver Detroit El Paso Fort Worth Gary Honolulu Houston Indianapolis Jersey City	Kansas City Long Beach Los Angeles Louisville Memphis Miami Milwaukee Minneapolis Newark New Orleans	New York Norfolk Oakland Oklahoma City Omaha Philadelphia Phoenix Pittsburgh Portland, Ore. Rochester	St. Louis St. Paul San Antonio San Diego San Francisco Seattle Tampa Toledo Tulsa Washington, D.C
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The Federal grant will supplement transportation services already provided by the cities. "This should substantially increase the number of youths participating in the summer programs," Volpe said.

The project is a demonstration experiment attempting to show that a grant system can be worked efficiently through a private, non-profit organization. "If this can be done, while properly safeguarding public funds, we will have developed a basis for further Federal programming in this area," Volpe said.

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