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URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$260,000 grant to Cleveland, Ohio to develop an inner city transportation system. The city will provide \$130,000 in matching funds for a total program of \$390,000.

Volpe said: "The Department of Transportation will watch the Cleveland program progress very closely as it might provide some answers to the urban transportation problems that face many urban communities.

"The Cleveland program has two principal objectives: one, to provide convenient, inexpensive transportation for the inner city resident to jobs in the suburbs; two, to develop an attractive, accessible system that will attract riders and revitalize the downtown business district."

Cleveland's Commission for Urban Transportation has developed plans for an improved city mass transportation system in conjunction with a long-range regional plan.

To realize the initial objective expressed by Volpe, preliminary studies have identified several neighborhoods in the inner city where large numbers of people live and need special transportation to jobs.

On the second objective, the study will develop new concepts for bus shelters, rider and pedestrian information and better scheduling between the line haul system and the existing downtown loop system.

The effort will be closely coordinated with a civic group called "Action '70" that has studied the downtown area of Cleveland and has made recommendations for transportation needs that would make the most impact on the city's downtown development.

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