



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Fort Wayne Public Transportation Corporation will be able to purchase 40 new air-conditioned passenger buses through a \$876,850 grant announced today by Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe.

The Fort Wayne bus line is the sole public transportation system for the metropolitan area with a population of about 200,000. In 1966, the system carried 4,844,000 riders. A recent survey disclosed that 2,100 riders a day depend upon public transportation to reach their employment.

Volpe said: "Fort Wayne is a city where there would be no mass transportation facility if it were not for the fact that the city acquired the bus company.

"The city has looked to the Department for assistance and thanks to funds made available to the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, we are able to help the citizens of Fort Wayne help themselves."

The PTC began operation of the transit system in July 1968.

Six new buses are already in service and an order for 20 more is imminent in anticipation of a Federal grant to cover at least one-half of their cost.

The \$876,850 Federal grant represents one-half of the approved project cost of \$1,753,700 for the acquisition and improvement program. An additional Federal grant of \$292,283 will be payable to PTC to increase the Federal participation from one-half to two-thirds of the approved project cost if the region meets the complete planning requirements of the Urban Mass Transportation Act.

This would bring Federal participation in the program to \$1,169,133 if the planning requirements are met within three years after the PTC and the Federal government execute a contract on the initial Federal grant.

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