



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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DOT -- 10669  
Phone: (202) 963-5154

Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a grant of \$187,665 to Williamsport, Pennsylvania to assist the city in the purchase of the Williamsport Bus Company.

"Williamsport, like many other communities, is finding it difficult to locate private ownership of its public transportation system which will offer the level of service required by the community.

"Spiraling costs and the downward trend in riders discourages private investment in public transit systems necessitating the use of public funds to provide a service that is as much a public utility as light, gas, or water."

The grant, issued by DOT's Urban Mass Transportation Administration represents one-half the cost of the program that includes the acquisition, the purchase of four new 25-passenger buses, the construction and equipping of a new maintenance and storage garage.

An additional Federal grant of \$62,621 will be payable to Williamsport which will increase the Federal share to two-thirds when the planning requirements of the Urban Mass Transportation Act are met.

The bus company transports 3,700 passengers daily, about 2,600 during rush hours.

Project No. PA-UTG-8

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