



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$26,666 Federal grant to Mobile, Alabama, in an attempt to head off a potential public transit crisis.

Augmented by a \$13,334 local contribution, the grant will be used to undertake a technical study of Mobile's public transportation needs.

Mobile City Lines, a subsidiary of National City Lines and Mobile's major operator of public transit, has announced its intention to abandon bus service and has operated without a franchise since June 1.

"It is unfortunate," Secretary Volpe said, "that we so frequently fail to recognize the importance of public transit to our economy until faced with the threat of losing it."

"If the economies of our urban areas are to continue to thrive, we must place greater emphasis upon public transit planning as a tool of economic development."

The grant was made by the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, headed by Carlos C. Villarreal.

Project No. ALA-T9-1

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