



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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A study of the public transportation problems in Atlantic County, New Jersey will be aided by a Federal grant of \$14,000 announced today by Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe.

The Federal grant will provide two-thirds of the cost of the study. It was made by the Transportation Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, headed by Carlos C. Villarreal.

Summer tourism and convention business form the economic base for Atlantic City, the County's largest community. The City's population fluctuates between 125,000 in winter and almost 500,000 during the peak of summer business.

Excellent public transportation is provided in Atlantic City by a privately operated bus company and jitneys operated by individual owners.

The jitney operations are profitable but the bus company has operated at a deficit. For the past two years it has received an annual subsidy of \$16,000 from the municipalities served.

Municipal acquisition and operation of the bus company are options to be considered in the study.

While low income areas in and around Atlantic City experience high rates of unemployment, inland employment centers not served by public transit, suffer from a shortage of workers.

Providing public transit to employment centers is a major objective of the study.

Project No. NJ-T9-3.

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