



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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One of the greatest challenges facing the Department of Transportation is helping provide mobility to those now denied a better life because they lack the means to move about the city.

Adequate public transportation is an essential ingredient in wiping out pockets of poverty and unemployment, Carlos C. Villarreal, who heads the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration said today at the annual conference of the Urban League meeting in Washington, D. C.

Villarreal emphasized Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe's desire to see that Departmental programs in urban areas provide the greatest service where there is the greatest need.

"We feel that the secret to a better life is access to a better job. For this reason we have devoted much of our effort to the question of employment facilitation, to making it easier for those who live in cities to find jobs where the good jobs are," Villarreal said.

"More and more often these days, the jobs which promise greater fulfillment and greater financial reward are beyond the heart of the city, in the industrial parks, in the suburban manufacturing centers, in the new industry which is growing up around the Nation's cities."

Mr. Villarreal referred to the McCone report on the riots in the Watts section of Los Angeles, which stated that "inadequate public transportation in Los Angeles seriously restricted many of those who lived in and around the Watts area and handicapped them in terms of jobs, schools, shopping and other needs." He stated that this study and others have shown the need for more action to improve transportation service as one step toward wiping out pockets of poverty and unemployment.

Mr. Villarreal acknowledged the relationship which his office has established with the Urban League at the local level but called on the Urban League for greater support from its employment and manpower service programs.