



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a \$1,573,722 Federal grant to the Mercer County Improvement Authority which will prevent a threatened public transit crises in Trenton, N.J., and surrounding area.

Although offered a temporary operating subsidy, Capital Transit Inc., operator of the bus transit system serving the area has announced its intention to discontinue service.

The Federal grant will enable the Mercer County Improvement Authority to acquire the assets of Capital Transit Inc., and to purchase 20 new 45-passenger buses.

Also planned is substantial improvement of the maintenance and garage facilities of the transit system and repairs to the Perry Street bus terminal.

"Dumping Mercer County's 20,000 bus passengers on the highways is a self-defeating action in this day of critical highway congestion," Secretary Volpe said.

"The improvement of public transit systems such as Trenton's is a major objective of the proposed public transportation bill now before the Congress, which I hope will get favorable consideration."

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

It is limited at this time to one-half of the project cost of \$2,360,584. An additional grant of \$393,430 will be available to the Mercer County Improvement Authority upon completion of the Delaware Valley regional transportation planning program.

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