



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The U. S. Department of Transportation today made a grant of \$90,000 to Chicago to help finance a technical study which will determine future mass transit needs to and from O'Hare International Airport.

The grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, (UMTA), will be augmented with local funds totaling \$45,000, bringing the total project cost to \$135,000.

In announcing the grant, Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said "the funds will permit the City of Chicago to plan in advance for an orderly program of improved access and egress from O'Hare International."

O'Hare is the busiest airport in the world. The latest figures show that 676,473 aircraft used the field during 1969. In a more recent 12-month period, approximately 13.5 million passengers were handled by scheduled air carriers at O'Hare.

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said that the future of the Chicago area's airport system "depends on having it properly integrated with various modes of ground transportation."

Other forms of mass transit already are in operation to and from O'Hare as a direct result of similar UMTA grants. The Kennedy rapid transit extension to the Jefferson Park Terminal coupled with express bus service provided by the Chicago Transit Authority now serves O'Hare. The service is a demonstration project funded by UMTA and by the airlines at O'Hare.

For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043, or the City of Chicago, Room 507, City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

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