



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Transportation Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration today announced a grant of \$31,166 to the Greater Peoria Mass Transportation District, Peoria, Illinois, in a move to develop an effective mass transit program for the area.

"This grant, supplemented by local contributions of \$15,584, will help provide technical data on the city's transit services covering a five year period," Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said.

An areawide transportation study is already underway by the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission that will coincide with the technical report.

A capital grant of \$746,666 to the city by UMTA in December 1969 was not executed when the city failed to raise local money. As a result, transportation service ceased until the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District was created in late June 1970. The capital grant then became available and transit service was restored. An effective transit development program must now be developed in order for the Greater Peoria area to qualify for additional aid under UMTA's capital grant program.

"The study financed by the grant announced today is designed to achieve this end," Urban Mass Transportation Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal said. "Long-range planning is essential to supplement the emergency transit service that now exists in Peoria."

Consulting personnel will be assisted by transit district personnel who will perform guidance and coordination functions by obtaining data from local sources and conducting a special survey of transit riders.

Completion of the project will take approximately six months.

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