



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY P.M.  
May 27, 1971

DOT -- 11471  
Phone: (202) 426-4043

The U. S. Department of Transportation today helped save mass transit in Salisbury, Maryland.

The Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) made a grant of \$107,370 to the Salisbury-Wicomico Transportation Commission to cover half the costs of buying out Salisbury's privately-owned bus company and starting a new public bus service. The town's current transit carrier, City Transit, Inc., which intends to go out of business, has been operating under a subsidy since last year until a public take-over can be arranged.

Today's grant will provide half of the \$214,740 needed to buy City Transit's 14 aging buses plus eight new 25-passenger buses, build a maintenance garage and purchase other new related equipment and land. All of City Transit's 14 buses are either in poor or fair condition and one dates back to 1947, according to company records.

After the Salisbury-Wicomico Transportation Commission completes regional transit planning requirements, an additional \$35,790 will be granted by UMTA, bringing total Federal participation in the project to \$143,160, or two-thirds of the take-over costs. The remaining costs will be shared by Salisbury, Wicomico County and Delmarva Transit Inc., which will be the new manager of the bus service under a lease-operating agreement with the transportation commission. Salisbury, the largest city on Maryland's Eastern Shore, is located about 33 miles from Ocean City.

-more-

"Salisbury's private businessmen are to be congratulated for paying one-third of the funds needed to keep public transit running since last year," Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said. The other thirds came from the city and the county.

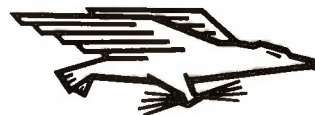
Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said that the grant to Salisbury "is part of our nationwide effort to help small and medium-sized communities and not just the big cities."

-O-

For further information, contact Walter Gold at the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043, or the Salisbury-Wicomico Transportation Commission, Salisbury, Maryland.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION  
Washington, D.C. 20591

Official Business



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**