



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced a grant of \$616,411 to Lansing, Michigan, for the improvement of public bus transportation in that city.

"This is not a run-of-the mill assistance grant," Secretary Volpe said. "A major portion of this grant will be used to purchase six electric battery-powered, pollution-free mass transit vehicles.

"The reduction of pollutants in all transportation systems is a continuous and major activity of the Department of Transportation and we welcome Lansing's effort in helping us to meet that goal. The city's pioneering effort will be widely observed and can be expected to have an impact upon the improvement of mass transit technology," the Secretary said.

In addition to the six electric buses, the grant made today from Urban Mass Transportation Administration's funds will pay two-thirds of the cost of acquiring 15 conventional buses and land and buildings for garage and maintenance facilities.

The six electric buses will be used by Lansing to begin an innovative downtown bus distribution system. The new conventional buses will augment existing service and allow its extension into Lansing's Model Cities neighborhood.

One-third of the funding of the \$924,617 project will be jointly provided by the City of Lansing, the Lansing Model Cities Agency and the State of Michigan Bureau of Transportation.

For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs (202) 426-4043 or :

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