



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

NEWS

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY A.M.
July 9, 1971

DOT -- 15171
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The U. S. Department of Transportation today made a \$2 million grant to California's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for mass transit planning in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The technical study grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), will allow the MTC to develop and coordinate mass transit planning activities of each individual transit agency, county and city in the rapidly-growing Bay Area.

Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said that the grant also will make transit operators in the San Francisco Bay Area eligible for an additional \$7 million in UMTA funds which have been withheld pending fulfillment of mass transit planning requirements for the region.

The bulk of the pending funds--\$6,460,959--will be available to the San Francisco Municipal Railway to be added to more than \$25 million in Federal funds already granted for new transit coaches and two-way radio equipment, the Secretary said. An additional \$432,552 will go to the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District to supplement about \$1.3 million which UMTA already has granted to AC Transit for the purchase of new buses and two-way radios.

Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal of UMTA said that today's \$2 million grant will be augmented with \$1 million in local contributions, bringing the transit planning project up to \$3 million.

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The MTC was created by an act of the 1970 California State Legislature to assume responsibility for the preparation, adoption and maintenance of a regional transportation plan for the nine-county Bay Area. The plan must be adopted by June 30, 1973. This technical study grant will be used to prepare the mass transit elements of the plan.

Joining with the MTC in its planning program are the Bay Area Rapid Transit District; the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District; the Port of Oakland; the City of Oakland; Alameda County; San Mateo County; Santa Clara County; the San Francisco Municipal Railway; the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District; the City of Santa Rosa and the City of Vallejo. All nine Bay counties are represented in this project.

Specific planning projects, such as extensions of the BART system to Antioch, Pleasanton, and the Oakland Airport will be studied by the MTC.

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

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