



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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A mini-bus fleet of 19 vehicles will be purchased for use in the central business district of Los Angeles through a grant made today by the U.S. Department of Transportation to the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

The \$74,350 grant, made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration, will cover half of the cost of the new 20-passenger buses. The mini-buses will use natural gas for fuel to reduce exhaust emissions, according to Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe.

An additional UMTA grant of \$24,783 will be available to the Rapid Transit District after the area completes its regional transportation planning requirements, according to UMTA Administrator Carlos C. Villarreal. This will bring the Federal share of the project to \$99,133, or two-thirds of the \$148,800 project cost, Mr. Villarreal said.

The new funds are in addition to a \$4.6 million grant made last summer to the Southern California Rapid Transit District for 200 new buses with two-way radios and fare collection equipment.

The new mini-buses will improve accessibility between the Civic Center and the west side of Los Angeles' central business district, providing short-ride trips in the 7th Street retail area.

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For further information, contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or, the Southern California Rapid Transit District, Los Angeles, California.

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