



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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UMTA 73-39
Phone: (202) 426-4043

Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar today announced a grant of \$1.2 million to the Metropolitan Dade County Transit Authority (MTA) in Miami, Florida to aid in the purchase of 30 new 48-passenger buses and related equipment.

The Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) \$1,182,133 grant is an amendment to a previous grant of \$2,184,000 made in June 1972. In addition to the 30 new buses, this amendment also includes purchase of 31 two-way radios, a radio base station, and 30 registering fareboxes.

In making the two-thirds grant Secretary Brinegar noted that this equipment was an essential part of an express bus system for the heavily traveled I-95/NW 7th Avenue Corridor in Dade County, and represents another major step in MTA's long-range plan to provide the riding public of Dade County with the best equipment available and the best service possible on a continuing basis.

UMTA Administrator Frank C. Herringer explained that the express bus program is divided into two parts, the first of which will concentrate on testing the effectiveness and techniques for providing priority bus treatment on an arterial street. The second phase would go into effect upon the completion of two additional lanes on I-95 for exclusive bus/car-pool use, and is expected to offer a dramatic increase in service in addition to a viable alternative to the automobile for commuter transportation in the East-West Corridor.

The bulk of the local one-third share will be provided by the Florida Department of Transportation along with a contribution of \$27,200 by the Metropolitan Dade County Transit Authority.

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For further information contact the UMTA Office of Public Affairs at (202) 426-4043 or Mr. Raymond Butler, Jr., Metropolitan Dade County Transit Authority, 3300 NW 32nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33152. (UMTA Project No. FL-03-0017-1)

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