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SECRETARY PEÑA APPROVES \$189 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR NEW JERSEY TRANSIT PROJECTS

Secretary of Transportation Federico Peña today announced approval of four federal mass transit grants to New Jersey Transit totaling \$189 million for a variety of critical capital needs and operating costs.

"These grants will help New Jersey make mass transit a centerpiece of its plans for a modern, comprehensive statewide transportation system," Peña said. "The vision of New Jersey's leaders is consistent with the state's traditional role as a national leader in the movement of both people and products."

The largest of the four grants, in the amount of \$100.5 million, will assist the state's transit system in financing rail infrastructure improvements, the purchase of electric locomotives and remanufactured rail vehicles, and continuation of the track rehabilitation program. The smallest award, for \$3.25 million, will help NJ Transit upgrade the statewide bus radio system.

A discretionary grant of \$5 million will help the transit operator pay for preliminary engineering associated with the proposed Newark-Elizabeth Rail Link project. The fourth grant, for \$80.3 million, is a formula grant that includes operating assistance of \$38 million and capital funding of \$42.3 million.

The funds will be provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), an agency of the Department of Transportation. Today's awards bring Fiscal Year 1993 FTA funding for NJ Transit to \$248.9 million.

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

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