

June 23, 1969

Mr. John A. Volpe  
Secretary of Transportation  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. C. C. Villarreal, Administrator  
Department of Transportation  
Urban Mass Transportation Administration  
Washington, D. C. 20590

Gentlemen:

Atlanta's Central Area has and will continue to experience a growth rate that only a handful of cities in the world have ever experienced. Employment, travel and other Central City activities will double between 1961 and 1983. Obviously, this growth will impose many transportation and development problems.

Over the years, the cooperative efforts of public agencies and private groups, working toward mutually agreed-upon goals, have resulted in the development of Atlanta as the Southeast's premier metropolis. Although we take pride in our generation's accomplishments, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. We must instead redouble our efforts in the future to assure that the dynamic growth which lies immediately ahead will be relevantly planned and developed for the citizens of tomorrow.

The Atlanta Area Transportation Policy Committee through its respective staffs and consultants has worked closely with the Urban Mass Transit Administration staff and its consultants in the development of a series of logical decisions on procedures to be followed relative to a transportation program for technical study. The transportation program for technical study is characterized by:



Messrs. Volpe and Villarreal  
Page Two  
June 23, 1969

1. The continuation of the Atlanta Area Transportation Study (AATS) Plan, approved in principle and adopted as a guide to be followed by the Atlanta Area Transportation Study Policy Committee and the City of Atlanta.
2. Synchronization of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority's (MARTA) proposed application for technical studies with Item 1 above.
3. Synchronization of the Central Area Study, a sub-area transportation study for the Central Area of Atlanta with Item 1 above. This is a unique team effort between the City of Atlanta and Atlanta's business community.

As mentioned earlier, the Atlanta Area Transportation Study has been adopted as a guide to be followed for further transportation studies. This action provides an important step in Atlanta's history and link with the Central City Transportation Project. Though we have talked in the past in theory and fact about our urban transportation problems and solutions, we have never had the resources or opportunity to follow through with them. The Central City Transportation Project would afford us an opportunity and the necessary resources to test transportation approaches and solutions, such as our "busways proposal", and further to detail improvements to our transportation network.

The CCT team of consultants headed by Arthur D. Little; Skidmore, Owens and Merrill; Wilbur Smith and Associates; and the Real Estate Research Corporation has worked very well with our local public and private agencies in the development of Phase 1 of this undertaking. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for allowing the City of Atlanta to participate along with the above consultants in Phase 1 of the Central City Transportation Project. It has proven to be most meaningful to us.

The Department of Transportation is also to be commended for its keen awareness and willingness to tackle the transportation problems of urban cities. The CCT project can be most helpful to the City of Atlanta in the development of local transportation and related programs. In addition, the experience gained here can be of great help to you and your department in developing subsequent transportation policies which will lead toward meeting our national transportation goals.



Messrs. Volpe and Villarreal  
Page Three  
June 23, 1969

We are very proud of the comprehensive, broad based transportation planning efforts being conducted here in Atlanta. We would earnestly request that Atlanta be included as one of those cities to be studied under Phase II of the Central Cities Transportation project. In our view, this project serves to compliment the planning effort now being put forth in the Atlanta region.

Sincerely yours,

Ivan Allen, Jr.  
Mayor

William Maynard, Chairman  
AATS Policy Committee

IAJr. /WM:fy