

March 21, 1969

The Honorable George Romney
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Romney:

The City of Atlanta is proud of its reputation as a leader in urban planning. 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 preeminent metropolis. Indeed, the results have been so successful that we must redouble our efforts to assure that the dynamic growth which lies immediately ahead will further the aims and objectives of our citizens.

We are prepared to do this. The current planning activities of the City of Atlanta, the State Highway Department of Georgia, the Atlanta Area Transportation Study, the Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission and the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority are closely interrelated. The Atlanta Area Transportation Study is nearing completion. In order to maintain momentum, and to assure continuity of our efforts, we now intend to undertake a comprehensive detailed plan for Central Atlanta. The timing is right for such a study. The regional policies and general plans which are evolving from the Transportation Study will provide key inputs to the downtown plan. As part of this study, it is intended that one or more mass transit distribution systems will be analyzed to determine the potential for increasing the effectiveness of the regional plan, and to serve downtown development.

In order to meet our rigid time schedule, we are requesting the assistance of the Federal Government. This letter is being directed both to the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. We believe that each of these departments is vitally concerned with the kind of program Atlanta is developing. We believe