

# April 1, 1967: The Opening Day of the U. S. Department of Transportation

David Martin, Reference Librarian, National Transportation Library  
Nicole Strayhorn, USDOT Intern & MLIS Candidate 2017, Florida State University  
Amanda J. Wilson, Director, National Transportation Library  
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On April 1, 1967, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) opened and began operations in Washington, DC. This poster is a story map of that day. A story map is a visualization tool that organizes text, maps, photos, and multimedia content to tell a story. The authors look at USDOT's opening day through multiple lenses. Historical resources available in the USDOT, the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC historical collections, and other related sources are used to tell this story. A fully interactive story map will be available from the NTL website (<http://ntl.bts.gov>) in Spring 2017.



A crowd watches as Alan S. Boyd and balloonist Don Piccard take flight in a hot air balloon over the National Mall, to celebrate the birth of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The public celebration was planned by the Smithsonian Institution.

"Above all, we wish transportation to make a more positive contribution to the urban environment of this country. Assuredly, we want an end to the noise, pollution and general disfigurement it has unintentionally brought to our cities."  
Alan S. Boyd, the 1st Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation



The map to the left is a proposed Washington DC Metro rail system from 1967. The map to the right is a proposed Atlanta MARTA rail system from 1967.

A crowd gathers at the National Mall to watch a great, noisy, propeller driven vehicle called a hydroskimmer.



**Sources**  
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U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation