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EXCERPT OF REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION,  
JOHN A. VOLPE, AT THE ANNUAL HOWARD COUNTY REPUBLICAN BANQUET,  
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1970, 7:30 P.M., MARTIN'S WEST,  
ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND

Howard County is on the brink of a classical urban explosion.

You have 60,000 people now but you may reach 200,000 by 1980.

You are feeling the pressure of population and pollution from  
Baltimore on the north to Washington in the south. You have the  
new city of Columbia with 100,000 people rising in your midst and  
only 2% of your people still farm for a living.

You face serious problems of overall transportation planning  
but we intend to help you solve them. The Department of  
Transportation presence in Howard County is substantial.

I know that highways in this country are right now a very  
controversial issue. But we can clarify it if we recognize that the  
main question is not whether to have highways, but how to have them.

Highways must be planned to avoid disruption and actually make  
a contribution to the overall environmental objectives of the citizens  
involved.

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Fundamentally, the kind of county Howard becomes in these years of rapid change depends on yourselves, your wishes, your aspirations.

What better opportunity could there be to demonstrate what modern Republicans can do to shape urban growth and prepare a better life for all Americans?

Of course, you are all busy men and women. Your lives are active and full. But you are here and I salute you for that. You are interested and concerned. But can it stop here? What about a still more active commitment to public life?

Let me tell you a little story about how I got involved in politics. Back in the fifties, I watched the Kefauver hearings about racketeering and corruption in government. My daughter, Jean, who was then in high school, watched with me and as the hearings ended, she turned to me and said, "Dad, is it true that all politicians are crooked?" I said, "No, of course not," but I thought about what she said for a long time. And the next time, I was asked to run for something, I accepted. I ran for Governor and won.

What I am saying is that I hope some of you in this room here tonight -- you with the talent, the energy, and the courage for public service -- will also run and win.

Now I know there are many potential leaders in this room who will ask, "why should I get involved? What do I have at stake?" Well, that stake is the future of urban mankind itself and it will be forged in counties like this one across the face of America.

You and I believe in this country. We are not knockers, but builders. We respect our heritage, but we want our future to be brighter and less troubled than the past. Well then, if that's what we want, we'll have to work for it and put ourselves on the line, just like Ted Agnew does.

Ted is a great Marylander and my respected colleague as a former Governor. He believes in plain language. Our Vice President stands for the grand old principles of a grand old party -- the principles of common sense, discipline, and self-restraint. Hundreds of thousands of Americans know he feels the same as they do about wayward youth, drugs, crime, rebellion, self-indulgence, materialism, and pornography.

My friends, I sincerely believe that we are the only political force that can ensure the survival of the principles which made this country what it is today. I think President Nixon described our

opportunities very well, indeed, during his recent trip out to the midwest to "bring the government to the people". He spoke of the three R's -- reform, restoration, and renewal.

Reform of our governmental institutions to bring them up-to-date so we can deal with our problems. Restoration of the human and natural resources upon which our progress and physical survival depend. And above all, renewal of the spirit of self-confidence of all Americans so that we can rise above adversity in the tough days ahead.

To fulfill the promise of these three updated R's, we need responsible government. Government which acts to solve problems, government that is dedicated to help the individual develop his powers, government which is responsive to change, government that knows it has been elected to act and not to play it safe.

I submit to you that this has indeed been the course of the Nixon Administration during its first year. The President began by urging us to lower our voices so that reason could be heard, and he set an example of discourse with the American people that has been balanced and reasonable. He urged us to be true to our traditions, and in keeping with that announced his plans for a "creative federalism" that will restore to local and state governments some of the fiscal initiative and autonomy that they have lost in long years of seeking all the answers in Washington.

President Nixon reiterated his belief, based on long years of political experience and contact with hundreds of thousands of Americans from all walks of life, that Government must not make excuses -- it must act to solve problems.

In accordance with that he has sought and worked hard for welfare reform, better management in Government, and model anti-crime legislation.

He has committed himself totally to the fight against inflation -- and the job there, as you know, is to take some steam out of a superheated economy without hurling us into a recession.

President Nixon recognized the crisis in traffic congestion in this country both on land and in the air, so we sent to Congress a \$15-billion package to modernize our airports and air navigation system. We worked hard to get it through and we were delighted when it passed the House by the lopsided majority of 337 to 6. Then they told us that the Senate would be a different story. So we went to work, and sure enough the Senate came across by a vote of 77 to zero. This is Nixon leadership at its best.

We also sent up to the Hill a precedent-shattering public transportation bill that would invest -- not spend, but invest -- 3.1-billion dollars to unclog our cities with creative new concepts for moving people and goods. That bill sailed through the Senate on a vote of 84 to 4, which shows nearly unanimous support. And my personal thanks to Mac Mathias for giving the President his active and influential support on this vital bill.

Now admittedly we have some hard work ahead of us in the House. Just last Tuesday I spent the whole morning testifying on behalf of this bill before the House Banking and Currency Committee. On Monday, I'm going to have another talk with the Nation's mayors and try to enlist their further help. We're getting more optimistic every day that the Public Transportation Bill will come through with flying colors.

But there is still another area of presidential leadership without which no other gains would make much difference. I am referring to the tangle in Vietnam. There, President Nixon, drawing upon his foreign affairs experience and the confidence of the American people, is pursuing a sensible course of de-escalation.

He has made it clear that, though we are devoted to peace, we shall never sacrifice our essential interests in Southeast Asia or abandon our friends who have fought so courageously by our side.

Even the national media are admitting that he has performed with admirable skill under pressure.

I say we are fortunate to have Richard Nixon in the White House -- he is a worthy successor to Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, and the late, beloved Ike Eisenhower. He combines those essential qualities of moderation, concern, judgment and wisdom that the presidency demands.

History will record that President Nixon was the first occupant of the White House who recognized the overriding importance of what has come to be called the "environmental issue." He saw that the biggest domestic problem before this Country in the Seventies will be not whether we can ensure prosperity, but whether we can manage its consequences.

Yes, we are the richest Nation on earth -- thanks to abundant resources, popular Government, and the free enterprise system. But we have always been prodigal with the land. We are poisoning the atmosphere, turning our rivers and lakes into sewers, ruining parklands because of public construction and the crush of visitors, cramming our cities with vehicles, and in general spoiling a heritage of great serenity and beauty. I say our biggest domestic challenge is to restore reverence for the land, because without this change of heart there will be no America for any of us -- rich or poor, young or old, black or white, radical or reactionary. This issue transcends all others. So let us here resolve to leave our Nation and this earth better than we found it. Let's support President Nixon's farseeing 37-point program to get air and water pollution under control and to assure enough recreation land for our rapidly expanding population -- ourselves and posterity. How vital that is for regions like Howard County that are being squeezed by urban expansion!

One way or another, this Republican Administration is determined to win the war for environmental quality. Let no one say we can't afford to do the job -- it's a matter of priorities. We spend \$15-billion in this country every year on alcohol, 10-billion on tobacco, 7-billion on horse-racing, 1-billion on movies and billions more on gadgets we don't need.

So the President has wisely asked Congress for an increase in budget authority for environmental purposes from a mere \$1.4-billion in fiscal 1970 to almost \$5-billion in 1971. These figures show the direction in which the President intends to go. He intends to face our problems and overcome them in the best Lincolnian tradition of common sense and commitment until the job is done. And he will be relying heavily upon the counsel and support of Mac Mathias and Glenn Beall and Gilbert Gude.

The people will always respond when a party accepts responsibility. I found that true when I ran for Governor of Massachusetts on a platform advocating a sales tax. All my advisors said that meant political suicide. But I kept trying to inform the people that the State would go broke without it. I worked hard for 14 months buttonholing all the support I could get and sent seven messages to the legislature demanding a sales tax. It passed -- and the following November I was re-elected Governor by the largest margin ever accorded a gubernatorial candidate in the history of the State.

My point, of course, is that if you always take upon yourselves the responsibility to see that things get done -- even when this means being temporarily unpopular -- you will ultimately convince the people and win at the polls. A party of responsibility is a party to which the Nation will always turn for leadership.

This sense of political integrity must begin at the local levels of party action. It grows from the grass roots. It is outward looking, always seeking new ways to serve the people. We must never forget that the Republican Party is not and cannot be a closed club -- it must be open to all men of good will.

Every county Republican organization in the Nation should be preparing for the future right now -- recruiting members, broadening the party base, getting more people to participate and, above all, contacting and convincing the youth of the Nation.

All through my campaigns, I have told my people to always keep in mind a little formula for success that I have found works surprisingly well. I call them the five C's.

The first C is cause. You have to have a reason for wanting to be involved. You have to be truly dedicated to what you are trying to do.

Then -- you have to have candidates. Every concerned Republican should always be looking for new talent for the party; we should always be working to convince capable men to run for office.

Third, you must have effective communications. You have to get your cause and your candidates across to the voters. This means good press relations, it means good advertising, it means the employment of skilled professionals.

The fourth "C" is campaigners! You just can't win election unless you have a dedicated team -- willing to put in long hours addressing envelopes, ringing doorbells, and doing all the small chores that are so vitally necessary.

And the fifth "C" -- the one without which all the rest are ineffective is cash. Cold hard cash. It's a political fact of life that you don't win elections unless you can afford the expense.

With these five C's in mind, you can be just about unbeatable. I have challenged you, as Abraham Lincoln challenged the whole country five score and ten years ago, to lead, to seize responsibility, to care, and to commit yourselves personally to the task ahead. Out of your ranks must come the leaders of tomorrow.

If we accept and cherish this responsibility and do not try to escape it, politics will take care of itself. If we think wisely, act justly, and uphold the glorious tradition of the father of our party, then we shall have nothing to fear at the polls. We shall merit the judgment of posterity that we were men and women truly equal to the greatness of the times.

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