

REMARKS PREPARED FOR SECRETARY ADAMS -- CEREMONIES OPENING
THE NEW CARROLLTON METRO LINE, NEW CARROLLTON, MARYLAND --
NOVEMBER 17, 1978

THANK YOU. I AM GLAD TO BE HERE WITH SO MANY OF THE
PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED METRO AND WORKED FOR IT AND
CHEERED IT ON, EVEN WHEN THE GOING WAS PRETTY TOUGH.

I JUST WANT TO SAY TO THE COMMUTERS IN THE AUDIENCE --
YOU KNEW THERE HAD TO BE A BETTER WAY TO GET TO WORK THAN
DRIVING IN ON NEW YORK AVENUE. WELL, HERE IT IS.

THIS IS A GREAT DAY, NOT ONLY FOR METRO AND FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, BUT FOR ALL OF US WHO BELIEVE IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND WHAT IT CAN DO TO HELP OUR METROPOLITAN AREAS.

THE GROWING METRO SYSTEM HAS MADE A BELIEVER OUT OF A LOT OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE "DIE-HARDS" WHO SAID NO ONE WOULD RIDE IT, OR YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT WORK.

IT DOES WORK, AND IT WILL WORK BETTER IN THE FUTURE.
THE RAIL SYSTEM IS NOW RUNNING WITH LITTLE OR NO DELAY
BETTER THAN 99 PERCENT OF THE TIME. THE TRAINS ARE RUNNING
EVENINGS AND ON SATURDAYS. RIDERSHIP IS INCREASING. AND
MOST IMPORTANT, JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY WHO HAS TRIED THE
TRAINS LIKES THEM.

THIS SEVEN-AND-A-HALF MILE EXTENSION, WHICH GOES INTO REVENUE SERVICE MONDAY MORNING, BRINGS THE COMPLETED SECTIONS OF THE SYSTEM TO NEARLY 31 MILES.

IT IS THE FIRST PART OF THE RAIL SYSTEM TO REACH THE BELTWAY, WHICH MEANS MORE COMMUTERS CAN PARK-AND-RIDE. A COMMUTER CAN NOW TAKE A BUS, OR DRIVE HIS CAR, TO THIS STATION, AND RIDE DOWNTOWN IN A MATTER OF MINUTES FOR \$1.50 A DAY. GOING HOME, THE BUS PART OF THE TRIP IS FREE.

THE STATIONS ALONG THIS EXTENSION HAVE PARKING FACILITIES FOR 4,000 CARS. AND METRO IS PLANNING A SERIES OF SCHEDULE CHANGES THE FIRST OF NEXT MONTH THAT WILL MAKE BUS TRAVEL BETTER AND BUS CONNECTIONS TO METRO-RAIL EASIER.

SO, I'M DELIGHTED WITH THE PROGRESS THAT'S BEING
MADE. AND I WANT TO COMMEND WINFIELD KELLY FOR BEING SUCH
A LOYAL SUPPORTER OF METRO, AND FRANCIS FRANCOIS FOR
REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF PRINCE GEORGE'S
AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL, AND TED LUTZ FOR THE
SUPERB JOB HE IS DOING AS GENERAL MANAGER.

I THINK THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WE'RE BUILDING
HERE IS GOING TO BE INDISPENSABLE TO THE FUTURE OF THIS
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY, AND A MODEL FOR OTHER URBAN AREAS.

IT TAKES A LOT OF TEAMWORK, AND SOME PATIENCE, AND
IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME MORE MONEY, BUT WITH CONTINUED
COMMITMENT BY ALL CONCERNED--AND A REGIONAL TAX IN PLACE--WE
CAN FULFILL THAT 100-MILE GOAL.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!

THANK YOU.

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