

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

10:30 a.m., Thursday  
June 2, 1966

EXECUTIVE

TN 2

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Center for  
Transportation

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Joe Califano

The attached Speaker Letter is prepared for your signature. It transmits legislation designed to move forward with the planning of a regional rapid rail transit system for the Washington Metropolitan Area. Specifically, the legislation will:

-- Ratify for the District of Columbia a Compact -- already ratified by Maryland and Virginia -- creating the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the planning agency for the rail system.

-- Grant the necessary Congressional consent to the Compact which is required by the Constitution.

-- Transfer, on September 30, 1967, the responsibility for the mass transit system from the existing National Capitol Transportation Agency to the new Transit Authority.

The Speaker Letter was prepared by Horsky, revised by Hardesty, and edited by Levinson and me. It encloses a memorandum dealing with the technical aspects of the proposal.

Also attached is a memorandum from Horsky giving you a summary of the legislative situation. Celler is prepared to introduce the measure in the House, and Horsky will ask Eastland to introduce it in the Senate. The outlook for passage at this session, according to Horsky, is favorable.

This is a very newsworthy item locally and should make a front-page story in all of the regional papers. We can release the text of the Speaker Letter at the regular Press Briefing the day the legislation is transmitted, and Horsky can be made available to answer any of the technical questions which may arise.

O'Brien, Manatos, Wilson and I recommend that you sign the attached Speaker Letter and that it be sent up this week.

Attachment

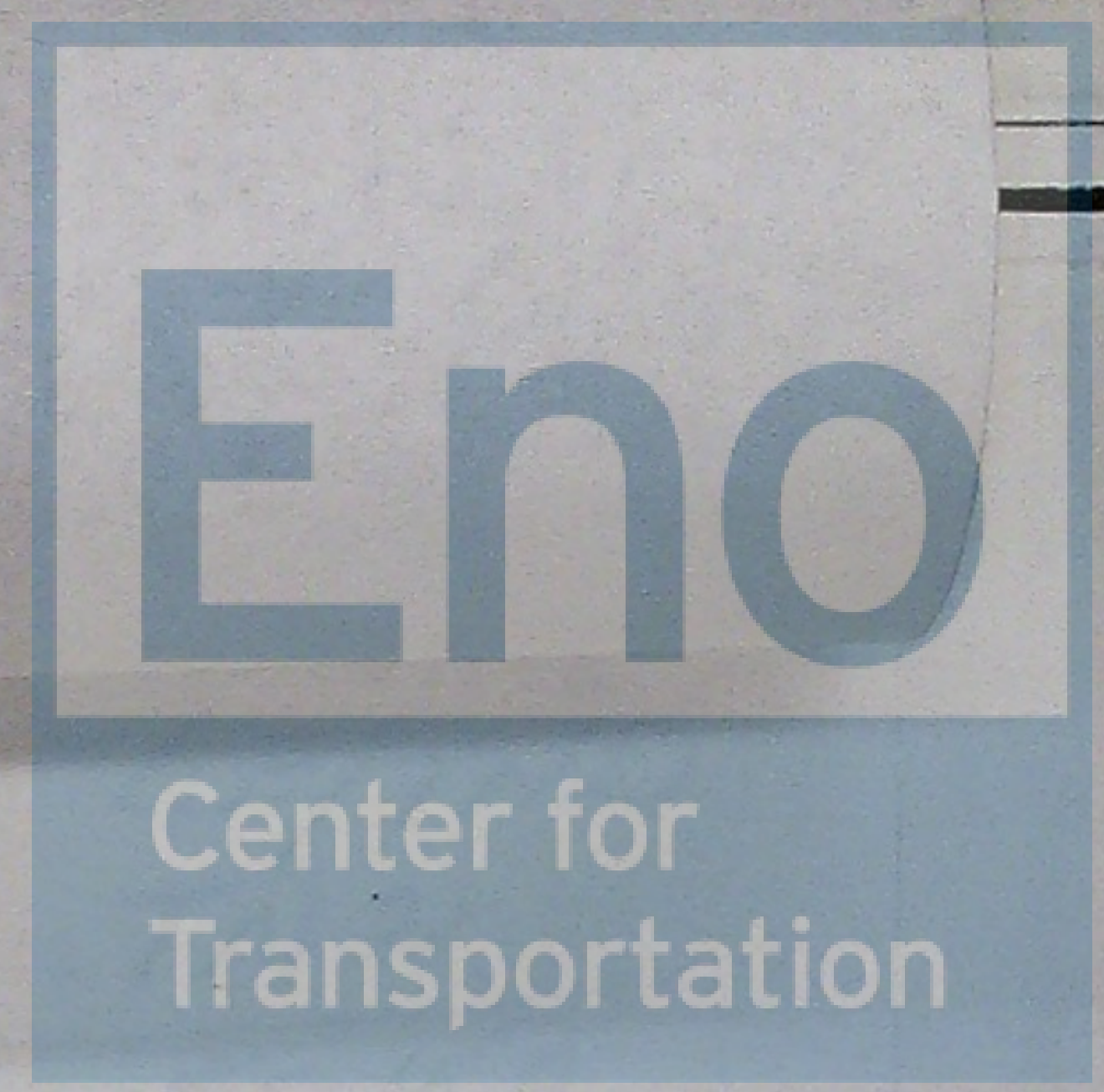
Nothing else sent to  
Central Files as of 4/18/67

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APR 10 1967  
CENTRAL FILES

FOR THE PRESIDENT

JUNE 5 1966  
10:30 A.M. TELETYPE

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



May 31, 1966  
12 noon

TO: The President  
FROM: Charles A. Horsky

Herewith for your signature letters to the Vice President and the Speaker, transmitting a bill to ratify and give consent to, for the District of Columbia, the compact creating an interstate agency to construct the regional rail rapid transit system for the Washington metropolitan area. It has already been ratified by the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia.

Approval of the forwarding of this legislation has been secured from the leadership -- Senator Mansfield and Representative Albert.

The bill will be referred to the Judiciary Committees, and I have obtained the approval of it from Senator Eastland and Representative Celler.

The Maryland and Virginia delegations are strongly behind this legislation. Senators Byrd and Robertson wish to be advised in advance of the transmittal, so they may become co-sponsors. Senators Brewster and Tydings are behind the bill.

On the House side, I have checked it with Congressmen Sickles and Mathias, who are its strong supporters, and with Congressmen Joel Broyhill and Whitener, both of whom appear to be favorable. Judge Smith has indicated his support.

It has, of course, been through the regular processes of the Bureau of the Budget for agency comments and clearances, and is strongly supported by the District Commissioners.

I recommend your signature and transmittal.