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New York

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 11, 1974

Dear Mr. Lichtensteiger:

Thank you for your letter of August 29, 1974,
to Phil Buchen concerning New York City's
public transit system.

We appreciate your interest in writing about
this important matter and have forwarded
your letter to the Department of Transportation
for further consideration. You will be hearing
from them soon.

Sincerely,



Michael Raoul-Duval
Associate Director
Domestic Council

Mr. Frank Lichtensteiger
230 East 88th
New York, New York 10028

cc: Phil Buchen J



*Find
routing
of Aug 14 letter*

230 East 88
New York 10028

August 29, 1974

Mr. Philip Buchen
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

Although New York City's Mayor, Abraham Beame, a Democrat, has been given the President's ear on New York City's transportation crisis, various responsible Republicans and Democrats far more knowledgeable than Mr. Beame and his staff on the matter of New York City's real transportation problems wait to be heard and consulted on the issue of unnecessary and wasteful federal spending on the Second Avenue subway and on other transportation priorities which could save money and still provide employment.

Although the original of the attached letter was sent special delivery to the White House, there has been no return encouragement to gather the voices which it would surely be helpful to hear before the major White House-sponsored economic conferences are held in mid and late September.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Lichtensteiger
Frank Lichtensteiger



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/3/74 - checked with
Roland Elliott's office to see
where this should be routed.
Jim Holmes will call.

9/4/74 - Jim advises that
this should be sent to Mike Duval.



*Found
routing
of Aug 14 letter*

*Domestic
Council*

230 East 88
New York 10028

August 29, 1974

New York

Mr. Philip Buchen
The White House
Washington, D.C.

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Sincerely yours,

Frank Lichtensteiger
Frank Lichtensteiger



230 East 88
New York 10028

August 14, 1974

Hon. Gerald Ford

Dear President Ford:

In New York City we could help cut back
two billion dollars of unnecessary govern-
ment spending.

The Ford Administration could help New York City set an example in government economy and the wise use of existing assets for the rest of the nation.

There is in New York City a project, heavily financed by the Federal Government, to spend almost two billion dollars for what a number of responsible people feel is an unconscionable waste.

The project is to build a new Second Avenue subway line. Those of us who oppose this construction as unnecessary say that we should be upgrading existing mass transportation facilities and supplementing these existing lines with imaginative new bus service -- which service requires no costly, capital-construction tunneling or laying of tracks, and which can use existing roadways.

Our voices are not listened to because there is a fetish in this city to solve existing problems by building something new. The Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and local community papers along Second Avenue have raised the issue.

We need your third ear in the form of a representative sympathetic and understanding of your great goals to listen to the sound arguments we raise.

With great hope for the future,
Sincerely yours,

Frank Lichtensteiger

(212 - 427-4751)



Second Avenue Subway: Do We Really Need It?

To the Editor:

The City of St. Louis has had the courage to scrap \$721,000 and nine years' worth of planning a subway and mass-transit system. Realizing they were erring, they decided to rethink their needs. Does New York City have the courage to rethink the need for

Second Avenue subway. It should review its cost and completion date, explain why it rejects other alternatives, solicit and reply to reaction. In the absence of this, I hope the city will.

JOEL HARNETT

New York March 20, 1974

The writer is chairman of the board of trustees, The City Club of New York.

THE NEW YORK TIMES
APRIL 2, 1974



Wednesday 3/31/76

2:20 A call came in from George Rieger of T. Rowe Price (212) 581-0520 in New York -- had a group on a conference call -- and wanted to talk with someone on the staff about a message to the President re invoking the Taft Hartley Act in the transit strike in New York.

Ken Lazarus talked with them.

He said they thought the President should invoke the Taft-Hartley tonight. If not, he should at least send a letter to the transit workers. Apparently just wanted someone to hear them out.