

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1032

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served March 26, 1970

Application of WMA Transit)
Company for Authority to)
Institute an Exact Fare System.)

Application No. 550

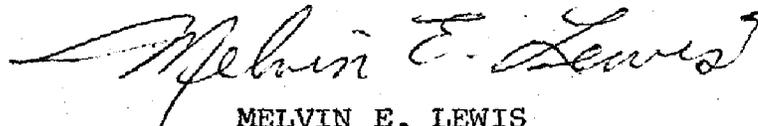
Docket No. 197

By Order No. 986, served November 4, 1969, WMA Transit Company (WMA) was authorized to institute an exact fare system. By the same Order, the Commission set a period of ninety days within which WMA was to substitute a one-stage fare collection system in lieu of the two-stage method traditionally employed by the company. By Order No. 1009, the Commission, faced with an appeal from the company asking that the requirement of a one-stage fare collection system be suspended, extended the deadline for another sixty days, in order to permit the staff of the Commission to fully ascertain the facts upon which to base a final determination in this matter.

Investigation has now been conducted, and the Commission's view is that institution of a one-stage system would be more disruptive of the convenience of WMA's passengers than would the continuation of the present two-stage method. Observation of the operation of the two-stage system by staff members of the Commission revealed that the traditional method of fare collection was proceeding smoothly during the peak commute periods, despite the institution of the exact fare system.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that WMA be excused from instituting a one-stage fare collection system.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:



MELVIN E. LEWIS
Executive Director

AVERY, Chairman: I dissent. I believe that the two-stage collection system is unnecessary and cumbersome. While a change to a one-stage system might cause some temporary need for adjustment by patrons, it is a more sensible arrangement in the long-run and we should not hesitate to make the change if it is desirable.