Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.

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T. M. Parham Executive Administrator

March 24, 1969

The Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr. Mayor of the City of Atlanta City Hall Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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Dear Mayor Allen:

As you know the Atlanta Concentrated Employment Program (ACEP) has a contract with the City of Atlanta for a component known as the Atlanta Beautification Corps (ABC) Program. We currently have about 58 low income residents of the center city employed under this contract. Their salaries are paid by stipends received from U.S. Department of Labor. The ABC enrollees have made a valuable contribution to the City of Atlanta through their work which involves cleaning up streets and public facilities in the low income areas of the city.

The original intent of this program was that the residents could gain work experience and improve their work habits through this program in the hope that they could be eventually hired in city or other jobs requiring minimum educational credentials. We have just been advised by the Department of Labor that we will have to phase out the ABC Program by August 31, 1969, and budgetary limitation will force us to cut the number of available slots from 60 to 20 by May 4th of this year. Our staff has been working cooperatively with a number of city officials in attempting to provide jobs in the Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments of Atlanta. Specifically Mr. Johnny Robinson, Mr. Ed Hulsey, and Aldermen Everett Milligan and Q.V. Williamson have been attempting to work out a solution

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Mayor Allen

that would accomplish this end.

I would appreciate your assistance in helping to work out a plan which would allow the city to absorb into its permanent work force approximately 25 of the ABC enrollees by the end of April. I believe you will find that Mr. Hulsey and Mr. Delius and others have been impressed with the overall performance of these enrollees who represent some of the most disadvantaged citizens in the city. I believe that they will agree that it would be beneficial both to the enrollees and to the city to make every effort to provide these people with meaningful employment.

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Any assistance you could give us on this matter would be very greatly appreciated.

Sinderely yours,

T. M. Jim Parham Executive Administrator

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