

STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN BROWNTOWN STUDY
MAY 14, 1968

Schools:

1. That a vertical addition to Archer High which would increase its capacity to 2,000 students be placed on a bond issue by Spring, 1968.

No bond issue has been scheduled. However, the School Department has planned for the improvements to Archer High out of other funds which are being made available. These improvements will be ready in ample to serve the community including the proposed Browntown housing development when it is completed in about two years.

2. That an elementary school site be included for any new housing projects approaching 300 units or more in size.

The developers of the Browntown site are willing to provide space for the elementary school. This is being coordinated with the Housing Authority and Board of Education. The School Board presently lacks funds for construction of an elementary school at this location.

3. That planning be started now for the construction of a new high school in the area as population increase demands it.

No plans are in progress.

4. That plans be started now for the construction of a junior high school on the already acquired site located west of James Jackson Parkway as population increase demands it.

No plans are in progress.

Parks and Recreation:

1. That a request for a neighborhood park for Lincoln Homes be placed on the next bond issue.

This request is on file and a neighborhood park is planned for Lincoln Homes in the comprehensive park development plan which will be proposed in the next bond issue.

2. That the City find a means of paying all of the personnel costs needed to maintain recreational services in Perry Homes.

A comprehensive summer recreation program is being planned for the Perry Homes area. The policy question on the City assuming costs of recreation programs in Perry Homes has not been resolved to date.

3. That plans be started for securing funds to build a community club house and fully equip Gun Club Park as a community park.

The swimming pool and bath house are scheduled to be completed this summer. They should be completed within a very few days.

4. That plans be started for the development of a community park to the west of James Jackson Parkway as population increase demands it.

Plans for the development of this community park have been started as part of the comprehensive parks plan for the city.

5. That plans be started for the development of at least one more neighborhood park in addition to the two already proposed for the area.

These plans have also been started as part of the comprehensive plan.

6. That the Parks Department be prepared to expand and improve upon existing parks and recreational facilities as population increase demands it.

The Parks Department and the Planning Department have developed a master plan for park improvement for the entire city. The Northwest area is included in this parks plan.

Sewers:

1. That the Sandy Creek Improvements Project be initiated as soon as

possible in order to bring about the major solution to most of the sewage and flooding problems in the area.

The Construction Department is making efforts to implement this project.

2. That until the Sandy Creek Improvements Project is initiated whatever temporary solutions are feasible be implemented to alleviate sewage conditions before large new housing projects are constructed.

Two projects have been funded for this year; expansion of the Hollywood Road Lift Station and the Bellwood Sanitary Relief Sewer. The Lift Station is under construction.

3. That a plan of action be developed to identify and aid the owners of those homes which are too poorly situated near Proctor Creek for anything economically feasible to be done about their sewage and flooding problems.

No progress has been made on this problem. However, Emory University legal aid people are preparing a suit to be filed in order to clarify responsibility.

Other Facilities:

1. That a public transportation study be made to specify problems faced by residents in terms of access to library, health, and employment facilities and to recommend feasible alternatives for resolving the situation.

The Planning Department, Perry Homes Center, Atlanta Transit System have been working on bus improvements. The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) will purchase several new buses for use by the Transit Company primarily to serve low-income areas.

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2. That the City make a concentrated effort to upgrade street and traffic facilities in the area, including the erection of traffic facilities at needed intersections, the construction of street lights in unlighted residential areas, and the general maintenance of clean and well paved streets.

The City is making an effort to upgrade street and traffic facilities in the area. A survey is being made now to determine the priority of the Johnson Road, Hollywood Road and Sumlin intersection. City Services Coordinators at Northwest Perry Homes and West Central Neighborhood Service Centers are working to improve street lighting and general maintenance of streets.

3. That efforts be made to attract to nearby industrial areas firms that would generate employment opportunities for local residents.

No definite program.

4. That the City require that developers of any public housing projects in the area hire local residents first in recruiting workers.

This is not possible. However, developers will be encouraged to do so.

General:

1. That local community groups establish the necessary organizational machinery to direct their complaints and requests to the appropriate public agencies and to follow through and see that their complaints and requests are acted upon.

A City Services Coordinator from the Mayor's Office has been placed in the Northwest Perry Homes and the West Central EOA Centers, Neighborhood Action Task Forces have been established, Police Community Service Officers have been employed from each of these areas and the Community Relations Commission will set up a series of grievance-response hearings to help facilitate communications between the community and City Hall.

2. That the public service agencies act upon complaints and requests from local community groups and give the groups a clear explanation if they are unable to meet a requested service.

The City departments are showing much greater willingness to communicate with community neighborhood groups and the machinery being established for the summer will help lead to permanent full-time communications channels.

3. That every effort be made to develop a healthier mixture of low and middle income housing types throughout the city so that public housing does not become further overconcentrated in the Northwest Browntown area.

Efforts are being made by many groups. An Open Housing Conference will be held on May 29 and the Mayor's Housing Resources Committee is pushing for dispersal of low and moderate income housing throughout all areas of the city.