

TO: The Housing Resources Committee of Atlanta

FROM: Sub-Committee on Public Housing

During the last year the Sub-Committee on Public Housing held numberless meetings with many community leaders and visited a great many acceptable sites for projects.

After days and nights of discussions and tireless blending of opinions, plans for action were unanimously agreed.

The only logical conclusion was reached that (1) subsidized housing must be fairly distributed throughout the city and, (2) that the only politically feasible way to do this was by a "package deal" simultaneously presented to Council by the Mayor and Atlanta Housing Authority with overwhelming community support.

Our full Committee, the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor's Citizens Advisory Committee, church organizations and many others approved and endorsed such procedure.

But when submitted to the Housing Authority the Authority stated it hadn't studied the plan, failed to approve or disapprove, but instead proceeded with the single shot approach which had failed before.

The result was continuing turn downs of rezoning by the Aldermanic zoning powers.

It is the opinion of the Sub-Committee on Public Housing that it is not too late to resubmit those rejected zoning applications through the "package plan" on a simultaneous basis to meet the city's needs for subsidized housing and that the Mayor, the Board of Alderman and the Atlanta Housing Authority should proceed to do so forthwith.

If the same energy, zeal and leadership of our "power structure" and city officials that was mobilized to build our dazzling stadium, luxury apartments and magnificent hotels and office buildings in our urban redevelopment areas had been applied with equal energy, zeal and leadership to providing subsidized housing for those who were bulldozed out of slums to make room for these majestic structures, the goal of public housing our Mayor publicly proclaimed so long ago would now be nearly reached.

We have done wonders for the rich. Now, let us do wonders for the poor!

Therefore, as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Public Housing and on its behalf, I move that our full Committee does now reaffirm its position on "package rezoning", and calls upon its fellow organizations of the city and those responsible for its implementation to cooperate to put it into effect.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE

by: Clarence D. Coleman
Chairman, Clarence Coleman

Charles F. Palmer
Vice-Chairman, Charles F. Palmer

William Bohn
Member, William Bohn

December 12, 1968