

HOUSING RESOURCES COMMITTEE

October 8, 1969

The Honorable George Romney
Secretary of the United State Department
of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On October 8, 1969, at request of this Committee, a presentation was made to the Committee by a representative of the Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta (the City's Agent for carrying out the Urban Renewal Program) on proposed activities for 1970 in the City's Neighborhood Development Program. Copy of summary is attached (Encl. 1).

This proposed program includes rather extensive activities in the five existing NDP areas and also minimum acquisition in three additional areas. Two of these, i. e., Lightning and Plunkettown are very depressed residential areas, which this Committee has been strongly promoting for acquisition commencing in 1970, in order to rid the City of these specific pockets of very dilapidated residential slums.

The City has made a major effort in developing this proposed program and is prepared to meet the local share of the Net Project Cost, as indicated in the attached.

However, letter recently received from Region III of HUD (copy attached) indicates a drastic cut back in the anticipated Federal capital grant funds with which to finance the Federal share of Atlanta's proposed Neighborhood Development Program for 1970. This would mean a severe blow to Atlanta's 1970 NDP program and great disappointment to the Project Area Committees (PACs) and other citizens of the areas involved, with whom the Housing Authority, the City Planning Department and this Committee have been working closely for so long. A drastic cut back now in proposed activities would be disastrous to morale and neighborhood aspirations.

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Atlanta has previously established an enviable reputation for Urban Renewal and NDP accomplishment and can be depended upon to continue to do a creditable job in this respect.

The Housing Resources Committee itself was created by Mayor Allen in November 1966 to promote, coordinate and expedite the City's low and moderate income housing program. To date it has accomplished creditable results, as evidenced by the attached Summary - Status of Accelerated Low-Income Housing Program (Encl. 2).

Therefore on behalf of, and in accordance with formal unanimous action by the Executive Group, Housing Resources Committee, I urge that every consideration be given by your office to maintaining Federal capital grant funds to be allocated to Atlanta in support of the 1970 NDP program at or as near as possible to the proposed Net Project Cost of the 27.4 million dollars.

Sincerely,

Cecil A. Alexander, Chairman
Housing Resources Committee

CAA/mc

- Encls: 1. Summary, Atlanta's Proposed Neighborhood Development Program for 1970.
2. Summary - Status of Accelerated Low-Income Housing Program.

cc: Mr. Edward H. Baxter
Regional Administrator
Region III, HUD