

May 25, 1967

Atlanta Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners
824 Hurt Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Gentlemen:

As an agent representing the Douglass-Arlen Joint Venture, one of the re-developers that submitted a bid proposal for Rockdale, we find it quite inconceivable that the Atlanta Housing Authority could award the project to David L. Rosen and Associates.

Our inability to understand the basis of decision stem from the following circumstances and/or facts.

1. Your action to pass a resolution to waive irregularities in the Rosen proposal, was within the discretionary powers of the authority and was stipulated in the invitation for bids. However, to exercise this power should have been limited to a situation where there were no other qualified proposals submitted. Further, to exercise this power in this instance shows partiality and discrimination against the other bidders. Every Re-developer was aware of the bid requirements and should have been required to fully comply. Those that did not comply should have been disqualified from competition.

2. Some city officials stated that "to give the contract for Rockdale to the "Negro" group would have meant outsiders wouldn't have bid on the next project because most professional advice favored the "White" group's plan." We take exception to this type of thinking. In the first place, the Rosen plan should not have been reviewed by professional advisers because he was disqualified. And since our plan was second best, (in your opinion) it should have received the contract on Rockdale. Secondly, how are you ever going to encourage local participation under the circumstances of injustice that exist in this case?

3. Not one member of the Aldermatic Board Policy Committee was in attendance at the formal hearing of Douglass-Arlen proposal, where many of the questions they later raised were or could have been answered. When we pointed out this fact, a "SHAM" hearing was held on May 12, 1967, and this committee knew that they had already made their decision on April 27th fifteen (15) days prior to the "SHAM".

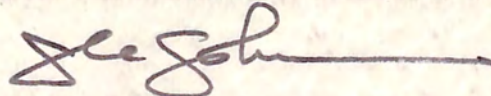
4. If your lawyers were of the opinion that it was important to open the bids on Rockdale in room 824 because the invitation for bid called forth this action, then they should also share our opinion that every other requirement of that document be complied with.

Gentlemen, the words competitive bid means to give all interested parties the same opportunities to comply with the rules and then judge them impartially. It does not mean passing special resolutions that apply to some groups; nor does it mean drawing special contracts.

Your re-consideration of your decision on Rockdale is hereby requested.

Very truly yours,

JOHNSON-RICHARDSON & ASSOCIATES



J. C. Johnson
President

JCJ/w

CC: Edwin L. Sterne, Attorney
Mr. Jesse B. Blayton
Mr. George S. Craft
Mr. Frank G. Ethridge
Mr. Jack F. Glenn