



CITY OF ATLANTA

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

April 1, 1968

KARL A. BEVINS
Traffic Engineer

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

Dear Mayor Allen:

In reply to paragraph #2 of your instruction sheet dated March 19, 1968, and entitled "Requested Action to be taken by City Departments and Public Agencies", we submit the following report.

We believe that the Neighborhood Task Force concept is the most effective way now known to "communicate" with the residents of the six areas. Residents of other areas usually write letters, telephone, and/or work through civic clubs, P T A groups or similar means of communication. However, we recognize the very grave danger involved in opening this channel of communication without providing the means of quick response with action that will be recognized by the individual citizen as relief. The lack of civic clubs and similar organizations makes "reasoning" with the person filing the request or complaint very difficult, if not impossible.

Therefore, we see an urgent need for additional personnel and operating funds to provide (1) the field investigation service, (2) the additional traffic studies needed to determine proper corrective action and (3) the work crews to install and maintain the needed signs, markings, signals and street lights. These needs are listed below.

Signs and Markings

1 Sign Crew (2 men and truck)		\$ 12,610.00
Traffic Engineering Serviceman	\$4,446.00	
Semi-Skilled Worker	4,264.00	
Truck	3,500.00	
Service for Truck	400.00	
Sign and Marking Materials		<u>10,000.00</u>
T O T A L (Signs and Markings)		\$ 22,610.00

Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.

April 1, 1968

Street Light Nighttime Inspection

1 Traffic Engineering Assistant II @\$5,720.00	
Auto Allowance (\$70/month)	840.00
Desk and Chair	335.00
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T O T A L (Street Light Nighttime Inspection)	\$ 6,895.00

Traffic Signals

Equipment for 62 new installations @\$6,000)	\$ 372,000.00
1 Electrical Construction Crew	40,349.00
Electrician Foreman	6,487.00
2 Electricians(@\$5,967)	11,934.00
2 Semi-Skilled Wor.(@4,264)	8,528.00
Aerial Truck	13,000.00
Service for Truck	400.00
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S u b T o t a l	\$ 412,349.00

Engineering, Specifications, Timing, etc.

1 Traffic Engineer I	8,671.00
Auto Allowance (\$55/Month)	660.00
Desk and Chair	335.00
1 Jr. Traffic Engineer	7,345.00
Auto Allowance (\$55/Month)	660.00
Desk and Chair	335.00
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S u b T o t a l	\$ 18,006.00

Field Traffic Studies to document needs for traffic signals if Federal or State funds are obtained to purchase the equipment

1 Traffic Engineering Asst. II	5,720.00
Auto Allowance (\$55/Month)	660.00
Desk and Chair	335.00
2 TE Assistant I (@\$5,265)	10,530.00
2 Auto Allowance (\$55/Month)	1,320.00
2 Desk and Chair (@\$335)	670.00
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S u b T o t a l	\$ 19,235.00

Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.

April 1, 1968

The above listed personnel, equipment and material needs are summarized as follows:

Signs and Markings

Personnel	\$ 8,710.00
Equipment	3,900.00
Materials	10,000.00
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T O T A L	\$ 22,610.00

Street Light Night Inspection

Personnel	6,560.00
Equipment	335.00
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T O T A L	\$ 6,895.00

Traffic Signals

Personnel (Construction)	26,949.00
Personnel (Engineering)	17,336.00
Personnel (Documentation)	18,230.00
Equipment (for Personnel)	15,075.00
Traffic Signal Equipment	372,000.00
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T O T A L	\$ 449,590.00

This listing shows an estimated grand total of \$479,095.00 which includes \$77,785.00 for Personnel, \$19,310.00 for Equipment and \$382,000.00 for Materials.

The needs for sign and marking materials are not great (\$10,000) as outlined above. However, the need for prompt service is urgent. The best our "normal" service can do is 10 days to 2 weeks after the field investigation is complete and the work orders are written. "Normal" time for field investigation is also 10 days to 2 weeks. Experience has shown that this is not fast enough for the needs of the six special areas. Field investigation must be done within 48 hours and work crews must be in the area within 3 or 4 days of the time that the request or complaint is filed. This time table requires the additional personnel outlined above.

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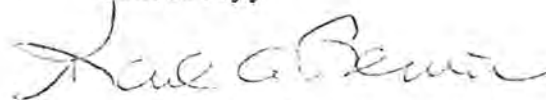
April 1, 1968

Experience during 1966 and 1967 clearly shows that regular night inspections are necessary to locate lamp outages, street light fixtures broken by rocks and/or rifle shots and report these items to the Georgia Power Company for immediate repairs. Normal maintenance by the Georgia Power Company calls for cleaning and re-lamping only every 2 to 3 years. In other sections of the city, residents usually notify us of lamps that burn out ahead of schedule or of physical damage that occurs. During 1966 and 1967, we found that (in the six areas) most of these items went unreported until we made a night inspection.

There is a "backlog" of traffic signal needs (city wide) consisting of about 150 locations where signals have been requested and where signals would be helpful and are warranted. Approximately 62 of these locations are in the six areas. Most of these are the "Merrill and Oakland" type of situations and there is no way of accurately predicting when or if a sudden pressing need will occur. New Federal Safety Standards will probably require certain additional equipment over and above our present standards. Accordingly, our estimate of the cost of these installations is slightly higher than in the past. Also, if Federal Funds are obtained to help purchase signal equipment, a substantial amount of field work and data gathering will be necessary to satisfy Federal and State documentation requirements. Estimated needs to develop this documentation are also listed above.

In closing, we assure you that we recognize the importance and the urgency of this segment of our service to the city. We believe that the "Neighborhood Task Force" type of communication should be opened. We urge that this improved communication be backed by improving the City's ability to respond with "desirable" as well as urgently needed services. In our field of endeavor, it is frequently difficult to define (explain) the difference between a "desirable" service or traffic control device and one that is urgently needed.

Sincerely,



Karl A. Bevins

KAB/fd

cc: Alderman G. Everett Millican, Chairman *
Advisory Committee on Civil Disorders

Alderman Richard C. Freeman, Chairman
Traffic, Parking and Transit Committee