

*File*

August 1, 1967

Mr. Obie Shelton  
Executive Vice President  
Atlanta Chamber of Commerce  
1400 Commerce Building  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Shelton:

During a recent Called Meeting of the Aldermanic Parks Committee the members informally discussed at my request the best location for the Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta if and when we reached the point where financing is available for restoration and a new home. The Committee directed that we bring this matter up for a formal decision at the regular meeting scheduled for August 15, 1967 at 2:00 p.m. in Committee Room No. 2 of the City Hall. Members of the Committee further asked that I correspond with you and invite you to attend this meeting in the event that you would like to express an opinion on the best location for the Cyclorama. If it should be inconvenient for you to attend on August 15 and you would care to write the undersigned, it would be my pleasure to present your views and opinions to the Aldermen. We particularly appreciate your continued interest in the Cyclorama which is obviously our most valuable physical historical possession and trusting you can attend on August 15, I am

Cordially,

Jack C. Delius  
General Manager of  
Parks and Recreation

JCD:lg

CC: Mr. Gordon F. Price, Southeastern Underwriter's Association  
Mr. Beverly DuBose, Attorney at Law  
Mr. Franklin M. Garrett, Coca-Cola Company  
Mr. Wilbur Kurtz, Jr., Coca-Cola Company  
All members of the Aldermanic Parks Committee  
Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor of Atlanta  
Mr. R. Earl Landers, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor ✓

July 26, 1967

A Called Meeting of the Aldermanic Parks Committee was held on Wednesday, July 26, 1967 at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the City Hall Annex. Present were Aldermen Charlie Leftwich, Buddy Fowlkes, Q. V. Williamson, and G. Everett Millican. Also present was Mr. R. Earl Lander, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, Mr. Charles L. Davis, City Comptroller, Mr. Woody Underwood of the Comptroller's Staff, Mr. Eric Harkness of the Planning Department, and Messrs. Jack C. Delius, Stan Martin, A. P. Brindley, and Stan Ayer, of the Parks Department.

Chairman Leftwich stated that the primary purpose of the called meeting was to discuss the recent allocation of some \$350,000 by the Finance Committee to the Department of Parks for emergency-type activities in the Parks Department. Mr. Leftwich explained that the funds were allocated only for capital improvements, etc. and were not intended to be for operating costs and other everyday items. Mr. Leftwich distributed a preliminary list of priorities drawn up by the Park Staff. A considerable discussion took place by members of the Park Committee as to just how priorities should be established and the best ways to spend the fund. It was unanimously agreed that whenever and wherever possible the money should be utilized for projects qualifying under 50% aid assistance from the Federal government through either the Land and Water Conservation Act or the Open Space Program. Although additional park lands are desperately needed and should be purchased while still available, it was generally felt by the Committee that the funds should be spent on Parks already purchased and owned by the City of Atlanta so that these facilities might be placed in service at the earliest possible date. The City Comptroller has pointed out that the City of Atlanta is officially committed to the purchase in the immediate future of an Urban Renewal Park Site in the Western portion of the Rawson-Washington Urban Renewal Area and a park site adjacent to the W. C. Hills School in the Bedford-Pine Urban Renewal Area. Other urban renewal park sites were considered too far off in the future to commit funds at the present time. Alderman Williamson felt that the Peyton Road Project should be deferred at this time since it is in a middle class community and not a disadvantaged area. The General Manager pointed out that Peyton Road was the only park site purchased under the 1963 Bond Program that had received no development or allocation of funds and while in principle the majority of the funds should go to disadvantaged areas of the City, some development should start on the Peyton Road Site. Alderman Fowlkes expressed an opinion that all the funds should be used for development, an opinion generally expressed by the General Manager. Alderman Millican stated that one of the best ways to use the money would be to light ball fields for night-time use.

The following list was finally decided upon and received the unanimous approval of the Parks Committee:

(Cont'd)

XERO  
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XERO  
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XERO  
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ALLOCATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY FUND  
PARKS DEPARTMENT

|   | <u>TOTAL<br/>COST</u> | <u>POSSIBLE<br/>FEDERAL<br/>FUNDS</u> | <u>NET COST<br/>TO CITY</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. PEYTON ROAD 1st STAGE  | 60,000                | 30,000                                | 30,000                      |
| a) Necessary site preparation<br>including storm drainage,<br>grading, grassing.  |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Drive and parking  |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Ball diamond   |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Paved court areas  |                       |                                       |                             |
| e) Children's play areas  |                       |                                       |                             |
| 2. DANIEL STANTON 2nd STAGE   | 25,000                | 12,500                                | 12,500                      |
| a) Paved court areas  |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Paved walk and skating<br>circle   |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Planting (trees & shrubs)  |                       |                                       |                             |
| 3. HARPER 2nd STAGE   | 25,000                | 12,500                                | 12,500                      |
| a) Drive and parking  |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Paved court areas  |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Children's play areas  |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Adult recreation areas   |                       |                                       |                             |
| 4. GUN CLUB 3rd STAGE   | 150,000               | 75,000                                | 75,000                      |
| a) Major size swimming pool,<br>bathhouse, and necessary<br>surrounding site work |                       |                                       |                             |
| 5. CENTER HILL (Improvement to<br>existing park)                                  | 40,000                | 20,000                                | 20,000                      |
| a) Required site preparation,<br>grading and drainage                             |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Park drive and parking   |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Paved court area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Children's play area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| e) Relighting of existing ball<br>field   |                       |                                       |                             |

|   | <u>TOTAL<br/>COST</u> | <u>POSSIBLE<br/>FEDERAL<br/>FUNDS</u> | <u>NET COST<br/>TO CITY</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 6. ANDERSON PARK (improvement to existing park)   | 50,000                | 25,000                                | 25,000                      |
| a) Required site preparation grading and drainage   |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Park drive and parking   |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Paved court area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Children's play area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| 7. BENTEEN 2nd STAGE  | 30,000                | 15,000                                | 15,000                      |
| a) Complete drive and parking   |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Paved court area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Children's play area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Planting (trees & shrubs)  |                       |                                       |                             |
| 8. THOMASVILLE 3rd STAGE  | 28,000                | 14,000                                | 14,000                      |
| a) Additional drive & parking   |                       |                                       |                             |
| b) Children's play area   |                       |                                       |                             |
| c) Paved walks  |                       |                                       |                             |
| d) Ball field lighting  |                       |                                       |                             |
| 9. Purchase of park in Rawson - Washington Urban Renewal Area (adjacent to public housing)                              | 65,500                | 32,750                                | 32,750                      |
| 10. Purchase of C. W. Hill School park site in Bedford-Pine Urban Renewal area.   | 140,000               | 70,000                                | 70,000                      |
| 11. Purchase of additional park land throughout the city - to be decided with the help of the City Planning Department. | 86,500                | 43,250                                | 43,250                      |
| TOTALS  | 700,000               | 350,000                               | 350,000                     |

The last item on the proposed budget, number 11, concerns the purchase of additional park land throughout the City. Alderman Leftwich and other members of the Committee expressed an opinion that in the event that estimates of construction were too low on some of the other projects that item 11 in part at least could be diverted to make up deficits. Stan Martin, Parks Administrative Assistant, has already requested the City Planning Department to make a survey to determine where additional parks lands are needed. Mr. Martin has already requested Mr. Collier Gladin, the City Planning Engineer, to up date the 1961 Park Plan.

The General Manager was directed to forward immediately to the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen the above suggested allocation of the \$350,000.

The General Manager then requested the Chairman of the Parks Committee to take up the discussion of the proposed location of the new Cyclorama if and when it is constructed. Mr. Delius feels that the Cyclorama should remain in Grant Park since it is located on the fringe of the actual Battle of Atlanta which the Cyclorama depicts, has been in the park for some eighty years, is internationally advertised as being in Grant Park, and is adjacent to ample parking, the zoo, and Fort Walker. All members of the Committee agreed that the best location for the Cyclorama was for it to remain in Grant Park. Mr. Delius explained that there was some feeling among certain individuals that if the Cyclorama is rebuilt it be located in a downtown area possibly adjacent to the auditorium where it would be immediately accessible to tourist traffic, etc. The Chairman of the Parks Committee suggested that at the next Park Committee meeting on August 15, 1967, that the matter be formally voted upon but that in the meantime Mr. Delius should contact all those individuals who have expressed an interest in where the new Cyclorama should be located and invite them to come before the August 15th meeting. The Committee agreed that any and everything should be done possible within the capacity of our present finances to begin study towards the renovation of the painting proper and the construction of the new Cyclorama building.

Mr. Charles Davis, City Comptroller, suggested to the Committee and the Parks Department that work should begin immediately on applications for matching Federal funds relative to the above mentioned \$350,000 and that in addition, applications should be submitted for the purchase of park lands in the norther portion of the West End Urban Renewal Area and in the Rockdale Urban Renewal Area. In the case of the latter project, originally only one park site was suggested for Rockdale; however, there appears to be three park sites now with two being donated and one having to be purchased by the City. Mr. Davis said that somehow or other funds would be made available for a park in the northern portion of the West End Urban Renewal project and in the Rockdale Urban Renewal Project.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.