

CITY OF ATLANTA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
February 12, 1969



JACK C. DELIUS
GENERAL MANAGER
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FRED. W. BOSWELL
ASST. GEN. MANAGER
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DIR. OF RECREATION
STANLEY T. MARTIN
ADMIN. ASSISTANT

Mrs. Ann Palmer Moore
Chairman, Downtown Beautification Committee
Women's Chamber of Commerce of Atlanta
1101 Commerce Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mrs. Moore:

It was certainly my pleasure meeting with you this past Friday to discuss the selection of trees to be used in the Downtown Beautification Program, along with the problems associated with this project.

The success or failure of this vital project will certainly depend in great measure to the level of maintenance afforded these trees. The undersigned has felt all along that the Department of Parks had the primary responsibility for maintaining the healthy growth and appearance of any plant material located on public sidewalk areas in the downtown business core. However, because of an extreme limitation in budget and personnel, we have not been able to assume responsibility in the past. We have sort of limped along by requesting on an emergency basis a limited amount of overtime to pay our people, etc. As a result, maintenance has not been systematic nor completely sufficient.

However, some months ago the City of Atlanta authorized me to employ the second City Parks horticulturist and the position has now been filled by Mr. Jan Bouwmans, originally from Holland. We have in the last few months been able to supply Mr. Bouwmans with a limited work crew and we have a modest budget for shrubbery and tree replacement throughout the City. Thus, it is my feeling that the City of Atlanta is now in the position to do proper maintenance and upkeep on all the downtown trees, be that whether they are planted in pots or placed in the ground. As an aside, we probably will experience continuing difficulties with some of the trees originally planted because they have become "potbound", etc.



Mrs. Ann Palmer Moore
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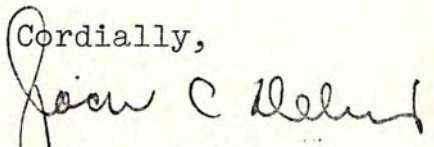
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It appears that Mr. Alexander, our arborist, in cooperation with Mr. John Nixon, the Atlanta Metro Forester, have very carefully researched several types of trees that should do well in the downtown environment. In addition, Mr. Alexander has taken a long hard look at the type of container we should use. If we in fact stick to the recommended variety of trees and use the proper container, and fill it with a balanced mixture of good soil and moisture retention material, I have every reason to think we will have a successful tree program for the downtown core.

In summary, the purpose of this letter is to state that the Department of Parks will assume responsibility for the maintenance and care of the trees located in the downtown area.

We are particularly grateful to you for your many fine services, and I am

Cordially,



Jack C. Delius
General Manager of
Parks and Recreation

JCD:bf

cc: ✓ Mayor Ivan Allen Jr.
Parks Committee of the Board of Aldermen
Mr. Eric Harkness, Planning Department
Mr. Pierce Whitley, Assistant General Manager
Mr. C. M. Alexander, City Arborist
Mr. Jan Bouwmans, Horticulturist
Mr. Ray Nixon, Chief of Public Works