

MECHANICSVILLE MESSENGER

JULY 1969

ISSUE NO 1

Newsletter Supplies Area Information

The Mechanicsville Messenger will be the official means of getting information about the neighborhood to the residents of Mechanicsville. It will be published by the Mechanicsville Neighborhood Coordinating Planning Committee working with Harland Bartholomew and Associates, planning consultants for the neighborhood.

The success of neighborhood improvement will depend on the interest and support of the residents. This Newsletter will be the best source of information concerning the Mechanicsville parts of the Model Cities Program. It will inform the people as to what is being done and will help them in their efforts to take part. Every issue should be read carefully by every resident with an interest in his neighborhood. In this way, the citizens of Mechanicsville may take a useful part in the improvement of the neighborhood.

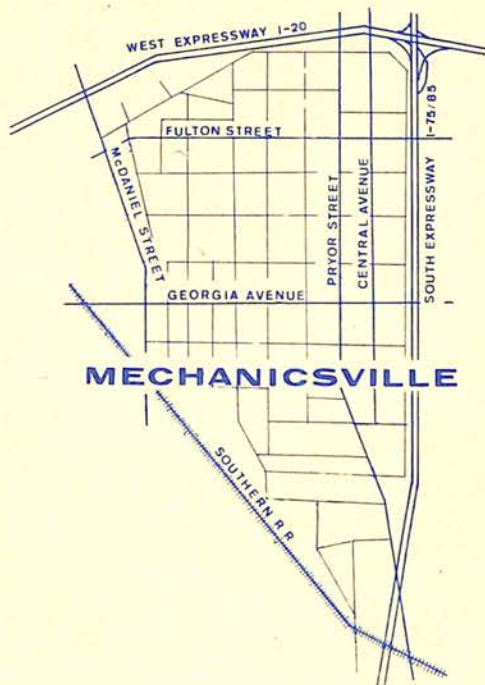
The Committee plans to mail the Messenger to residents of Mechanicsville once each month.

M.C. Program Involves Citizens

Mechanicsville is one of six neighborhoods which make up the Atlanta Model Cities Area. Although it is small in size, it includes the most people of any of the six neighborhoods.

The Model Cities Program has one major objective: to face the many different kinds of problems of urban living in order to increase human opportunity and enjoyment.

The program is intended to rebuild the worn-out facilities. It is intended to increase the supply of housing for low and moderate income families. It is intended to increase the earning power of the people through training and expanded job opportunities. It is intended to provide the needed public facilities such as parks, schools, streets and utilities. In short, the program is intended to provide an environment for good living related to the needs and desires of the residents. To accomplish these goals requires cooperative effort - of the citizens, of the city of the Model Cities staff, of the Atlanta Housing Authority and of professional planners assisting in the work.



Consultant Action

Mr. Joe Ross represents the planning consultant, Harland Bartholomew and Associates. His work with the Committee will include:

- A survey of possible 1970 acquisition areas
 - A relation of areas chosen to the overall improvement plan and preparation of necessary maps and reports.
- Other consultants, such as economists, appraisers and architects will also be used.

Agencies At Work

The urban renewal program in Mechanicsville involves the work of several groups and individuals.

The first is the Model Cities Administration which operates as a separate part of the city. Making use of a planning consultant and working with the residents, the Model Cities Program (MCP) prepares plans and submits them to the Atlanta Housing Authority. The MCP also provides a means of hearing individual problems and recommendations.

The Atlanta Housing Authority's role is that of action and assistance. It is the AHA's responsibility to carry out the plans. It also gives assistance in relocation and other problems.

The City of Atlanta is, of course, the final authority. The City pays one-third of the cost and provides other types of services. The Planning Department will insure that the 1970 activities agree with the 1983 Model Cities Plan.

Planning Committee

The Neighborhood Coordinating Planning Committee is made up of the heads of operating committees under the Model Cities Program and the Advisory Council. These are residents and businessmen of Mechanicsville. This committee is the direct contact with the consultants and the Model Cities staff. Any questions of residents should be discussed with them. The committee's responsibilities are:

1. To keep all residents informed of existing and planned activities.
2. To encourage active participation in meetings and by questions and comments to make this participation meaningful.
3. To encourage every resident to help in planning.
4. To furnish the means for the residents to be heard in all phases of the urban renewal process. The committee will provide ideas or proposals toward the solution of existing problems.

PROJECT OFFICE

The Atlanta Housing Authority's Office in Model Cities is known as the Model Cities Neighborhood Development Program Area Office. This office is responsible for carrying out the physical implementation of the plan that the Model City Planning Office has developed, in cooperation with the many citizen participation groups.

The Model Cities Neighborhood Development Program Area Office has two separate sections. The first is charged with the responsibility of satisfactorily relocating the residents and businesses from those areas that are scheduled to be cleared and redeveloped into a truly model residential community. The other section is concerned with the remodeling of those structures that are within the designated rehabilitation areas. This includes an actual inspection of each dwelling and the preparation of a list of needed repairs. In many cases financial assistance is available through either the Loan or Grant Program. The Rehabilitation Advisor follows the construction from beginning to end, inspecting each step to assure the home owner of receiving complete value for his dollar invested.

The Model Cities Neighborhood Development Project Office is presently located in room 141 of the Martin Luther King Memorial High Rise for the elderly at 530 McDaniel Street, S.W., one block off Georgia Avenue. The telephone number is 523-0245.

On July 15th the office will be moving to its new and permanent address, 683 Capitol Avenue, S.W. at the corner of Georgia and Capitol Avenue. Our new telephone number will be 523-5851.

For future reference, listed below are the departmental Supervisors.

W.R. Wilkes, Jr. - Project Director
Thomas Walker - Asst. Project Director
Walter W. Reid - Family Services Consultant Supervisor
R.C. Littlefield - Rehabilitation Supervisor
Miss Dorothy Moon - Secretary
C.V. Dickens - Financial Advisor

MRS. EVA GLOVER



MRS. GLOVER TALKS WITH ONE OF HER NEIGHBORS ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Mrs. Glover's primary interest is making Mechanicsville a better place for family life. Although she was born in Sparta, Georgia, she has lived in the Mechanicsville area since 1925. She was a strong force in organizing local support for the Community Center and is active in its operation. Besides her work on the Advisory Council, Mrs. Glover is chairman of the Relocation Committee, serves on the Program Committee and sings in the choir at St. Paul's AME Church. Mrs. Glover campaigned hard for her election to the Council because she knew she could do a good job for the committee, which she has been doing.

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Participation

The Model Cities Program depends on citizen participation. This action is three fold.

The resident is responsible for taking an interest in his neighborhood. He can read this Newsletter and others following, and he can talk with the members of the Advisory Council from his block. These are listed on page four.

The Neighborhood Coordinating Planning Committee will keep the resident informed. It will distribute information to the resident; for example, this Newsletter.

The consultants provide the technical services needed in working out a plan with the residents. The consultant will work with the Committee and the Advisory Council as well as other groups.

Renewal Activities

In the summer of 1968 the Model Cities staff began meeting with citizens and the Neighborhood Coordinating Planning Committee from Mechanicsville. When the Model Cities application was funded by the Federal Government it included three and a half blocks in Mechanicsville for acquisition during 1969.

Two blocks bounded by Windsor, Fulton, Formwalt and Richardson.

One block bounded by Richardson, Cooper, Crumley and Windsor.

One half block on the east side of Formwalt between Georgia and Glenn.

Planning for 1970 activities was begun in May 1969. On June 23, the first meeting of the committee was held with the planning consultant.

REVEREND M.M. THOMAS

Reverend Thomas grew up in Jackson, Georgia and later moved to Atlanta. He has lived in Mechanicsville for the past 15 years. Reverend Thomas is employed by the Lockheed-Georgia Company in Marietta. His spare time is divided among his family and his two churches, the Sardis Baptist Church and the Shoal Creek Baptist Church in Pike County. In spite of this busy schedule, he finds time to serve on the Advisory Council. Reverend Thomas has shown himself to be willing and anxious to work for the improvement of living conditions in Mechanicsville.



REVEREND THOMAS RELAXES IN HIS SPARE TIME

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Mechanicsville Neighborhood Coordinating Planning Committee

Mrs. Alyce Nixon, 703 Cooper Street, SW 524-4920
Vice Chairman

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Rev. Simon Shuman	428 Hightower Road, NW	
Miss Doris Thomas	401 Rawson Street, SW	524-2368
Rev. B.J. Johnson	388 Glenn Street, SW	521-1271
Mrs. Ann Childs	620 Ira Street, SW	523-4056
Mrs. Janie Lowe	623 Ira Street, SW	522-2762
Mrs. Bessie Aaron	74 Whiteford Avenue, NE	
Mr. William Gaston	465 Pryor Street, SW	523-4930
Rev. W.L. Finch	465 Pryor Street, SW	523-4930
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Mrs. Mattie Compton	567 Cooper Street, SW	322-3695
Rev. J.H. Gromes	740 Amber Place, NW	
Rev. J.H. Lockett	606 Pryor Street, SW	755-4862
Mrs. Beatrice Gooden	637 Pulliam Street, SW	
Rev. L.C. Clack	591 Pulliam Street, SW	524-5160
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Mrs. Ernestine Hurley	294 Bass Street, SW	
Mrs. Bessie Kelley	709 Pryor Street, SW	
Mrs. Dorothy Jenkins	252 Hendrix Street, SW	
Mrs. Dorothy Lawrence	194 Hendrix Street, SW	
Mrs. Lucy Hall	740 Central Street, SW	524-1870
Rev. M.M. Thomas	931 Fortress Street, SW	525-9755
Rev. T.R. Jones	1437 Murry Street, SE	
Mrs. Eva Glover	675 Ira Street, SW	688-8821
Mrs. Hattie Mosley	374 Bass Street, SW	524-0062
Rev. L.M. Terrill	606 McDaniel Street, SW	

CHAIRMEN OF OPERATING COMMITTEES

Mrs. Bertha Barton	260 Bass Street, SW	525-8919
Mrs. Carrie Berry	721 Cooper Street, SW	525-3903
Mrs. Rosa Burney	712 Garibaldi Street, SW	521-2118
Mrs. Dorothy Finney	803 Cooper Street, SW	524-7537
Mrs. Eva Glover	675 Ira Street, SW	688-8821
Mrs. Annie Ruth Newton	528 Wells Street, SW #1590	577-5044

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