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September 19, 1967

Mr. Kiliaen V. R. Townsend, President
Atlanta Motor Lodges, Inc.
120 North Avenue, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

Dear Mr. Townsend:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 8, 1967 regarding playlots in the Washington Street area of our City. I apologize for this belated reply but have just returned from a vacation trip.

Mrs. Pat Royalty has been quite interested in the possibility of the City's losing the use of the Crew and Haygood Playlot. At the present time we have had no indication that the owner intends to take the property back although we only hold a lease for one year which is cancellable upon thirty days notice. I understand that the property will be up for a zoning hearing on September 21, 1967, and I have been further advised that Mr. Herbert Johnson, Attorney for the owner, is under the impression that even if the zoning application is successful, that the owner is not planning to do anything with the land for two or three years.

Our Federal funds for the development and staffing of the some thirty-five playlots located in the hard-corps slum areas of our City expires September 30. Already, since school is back in session, we have curtailed our operation to after-school hours and on the week-end. We have hopes of collecting certain vital locations and continue the operation of playlots in these areas through the end of the year.

Under the Federal Grant, we had funds available to construct and operate a total of twenty-one playlots. However, as mentioned above, some thirty-five were actually staffed and several more were created and operated without personnel. Due to simple budget limitations, we have had to be highly selective in the construction of any additional playlots and we presently have on our list of requests a dozen or more locations in areas of the City which have

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not yet received any facilities. In the Washington-Ormond Street area and that portion generally considered to be Mechanicsville and Summerhill, a number of locations have been created and frankly there has been criticism from neighborhoods which have been overlooked as to the number of lots created in the southern portion of the City.

You are most generous in your offer of various properties and I would like to take the liberty to keep your letter in our current file on playlots so that in the event that we do lose the Crew and Haygood location we can quickly turn to one of your properties.

In conclusion, it is businessmen like your that make it possible for the playlot program to function and I thank you ever so much for offering to us without charge such valuable real estate.

Sincerely,

Jack C. Delius
General Manager of
Parks and Recreation

JCD:lg

CC: Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. ✓
Mrs. Robert M. Royalty