

May 6, 1968

Honorable H. Ralph Taylor
Assistant Secretary
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C. 20410

Dear Secretary Taylor:

Your letter of April 22 informing us of the proposed low-cost housing experiment by HUD in perhaps 20 cities having Model Cities grants is most intriguing. We definitely want you to include Atlanta on your list as one of the cities willing to cooperate in the development of innovative techniques, particularly in our extensive Model Cities area, in interest of generating increased levels and reducing construction costs of dwelling units for low-income families.

On May 2 our Housing Resources Committee adopted a Resolution recommending early selection and development for low-income housing, as soon as possible, of approximately a ten acre portion of the worst residential section of our Model Cities area, through "advance land acquisition" procedure.

We have also been approached by an Engineer, reputable local Contractor and Architect team which is anxious to obtain a site in our Model Cities area for construction of several hundred units of high density (40 units per acre) low-income housing, using a "patent applied for" concept of precast concrete general purpose angle slabs that can be cast on-site and installed with a minimum of equipment and using primarily untrained local labor.

The principal in this team, Mr. John McNamara, Engineer of Savannah, Georgia, I understand has already contacted a couple of your people in Washington about his concept - Mr. Porter Driscoll,

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Director, Architectural Division, FHA in HUD, and Mr. Deman,
Assistant Commissioner for Technical Standards in HUD.

We hope that you will keep us advised of the progress of this housing
experiment and assure you of our desire to participate and willingness
to cooperate in this venture.

Sincerely yours,

Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor

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