

THE ATLANTA SUMMIT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

To: The Honorable Ivan A. Allen, Mayor City of Atlanta

From: The Atlanta Summit Leadership Conference, A Coordinating Coalition of Atlanta Organizations and Community Leadership. Primary Sponsors: NAACP, Operation Breadbasket, Atlanta Negro Voters League, All-Citizens Registration Committee and ACCA. Summit Co-Chairmen: Jesse Hill, Jr., Rev. S. W. Williams and Alderman Q. V. Williamson.

Subject: State of Our City and the Negro Community, special requests and concerns. Presented by Special City Affairs Committee.

Our Committee is here to reaffirm its interest and confidence in the future of Atlanta and to express our desire to share in the responsibility of its continued growth and greatness. It is our desire and intention to share at all levels and in all areas. This morning we wish to make the following requests and express concerns indicated:

I. Special Requests -

- A. The appointment of a Negro to Deputy Staff level in the Personnel Dept., under General Sutherland, and the hiring of a Negro Recruiter.
- B. An Equal Employment Opportunity clause with in enforcement provisions in all City Purchasing Contracts.
- C. The immediate desegregation of the Main Library staff and the desegregation and merit promotion of personnel in branch staffs.
- D. The hiring of Negro Housing Inspectors.
- E. The hiring of Negro Judges in the Traffic and Municipal Courts not as Ad Hoc Judges but regular Judgeship status.
- F. The Installation of an Information Desk in lobby of City Hall.
- G. The revival of the City's Equal Employment Opportunity Committee, formerly headed by the late Alderman John A. White, and included the late Attorney A. T. Walden and Clarence Coleman.
- H. Second Request for a list and description including purpose and top staff of all federal funded or assisted programs of the City of Atlanta. This request was made many months ago shortly after Mr. Dan Sweat was named to his current position.

II. Housing Urban Renewal, Model Cities -

Our Community and our City Government are on a "collision course" in Urban Renewal, Housing the proposed Model Cities Program. We have already informed you of our endorsement of our community position on Housing as setforth by the NAACP through President A. M. Davis.

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We take this opportunity to inform you of our endorsement of the proposals submitted by Rep. John Hood on "Model Cities" including immediate action for changes in the Executive Board. We also request that the Planning Fund Request, Technical Advisory Board be revised to include our suggestion for Negro experts to be included (plus other job categories).

Urban Renewal

The Negro Community has seen Urban Renewal too often implemented as "Negro Removal". We also see it as business and sizable financial transactions, where representatives of our race have been excluded from major financial transactions, a crucial item that could along with other ills in Model Cities, and Housing cause Atlanta to lose the Negro Community support of all Federal HUD Programs, a strong united complaint from our community to HUD Secretary Robert Weaver requesting a halt in HUD funds for Atlanta.

The crucial case in point is the Rockdale Project. (Alderman Williamson will explain our position) where a Negro church, Union Baptist is the sponsor, a Negro architect and Negro agents are primarily involved.

III.

In view of the evils and discrimination uncovered by Alderman Williamson recently in the City Construction Department, we request a survey or investigation of all city departments. The investigating staff should include representatives of the Equal Employment Opportunities Committee and the City Human Relations Commission.

We also request a summary report of involvement of Negroes in the City Government (staff and policy) and a summary report of the status of compliance of Atlanta with the Civil Rights Law. Negroes are still receiving public accommodation insults in our city.

IV.

Park Facilities

We request a Crash Program to correct the many years of discrimination in the location of park facilities and the quality of park facilities and golf courses in our city.

V.

Status of Alderman Q. V. Williamson

We wish to apologize to Alderman Williamson for this personal reference. He had no knowledge that this item would be included.

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However, we note that you have appointed every one in his tenure class or older to chairmanships of committees but him. In the case of Hugh Pierce he has a chairmanship and a vice chairmanship. Mr. Williamson has neither a chairmanship nor a vice chairmanship. We suggest that he be considered as chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee to succeed the late John White as a beginning to correct this situation.