

ATLANTA URBAN CORPS

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mr. Dan Sweat

DATE: May 14, 1969

FROM: Sam Williams, Director
Atlanta Urban Corps

SUBJECT: "Home" for the Urban Corps

Pursuant to our discussions about the city department which would sponsor the Urban Corps, I offer the following information as justification for housing the Urban Corps under the Office of the Mayor.

Since the program itself must cross into virtually every agency and department, placing its administration at the vortex of the city's structure simplifies considerably the establishment of program guidelines and the enforcement of program policy. Also, students and colleges seem to respond more favorably to a program under the direct aegis of the Chief Executive.

. from the National Urban Corps
Organizational Manual

According to the National Urban Corps Office, 13 out of the 14 Urban Corps now operating are under the Office of the Chief Executive of each city.

This summer our payroll will total almost \$270,000 which necessitates a special payroll account in the city's Data Processing and Finance Department. Since this account requires departmental sponsorship, that means all employees of that department would be tallied on the same ledger and bank account which could confuse an already complicated system if lumped into a small department such as the Youth Council. The accounting department is creating a special billing department due to the size and number of checks to be issued. This can be done under no presently existing department since we will be billing other city departments and private agencies.

In dealing with other city agencies it is easier to influence their opinion and participation if they realize the Mayor is sponsoring the program. Also, this keeps us from inheriting inter-departmental conflicts that virtually any department would have accumulated. Contacting colleges at all levels is much easier from a formal relations point of view if it is done through the Chief Executive's office. This advantage can save us valuable time in Atlanta on certain campuses due to political problems. We will deal with six other government units in Atlanta at the highest level; therefore, our base in Atlanta City government should be known and respected.