

Handwritten signature

August 3, 1967

Mr. N. A. Hardin
H. H. and N. A. Hardin Company
Post Office Box 390
Forsyth, Georgia

Dear Nat:

Thank you for your letter of August 2nd regarding
Gene Patterson's editorial.

I certainly appreciate receiving your views on the
subject of slums and disorders.

With appreciation for your interest, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor

IAJr/br

H. H. & N. A. HARDIN COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 390

FORSYTH, GEORGIA

TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 912
994-5633

August 2, 1967

Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor, City of Atlanta
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Ivan:

Eugene Patterson has reported your proposal for slum and poverty rehabilitation in this morning's newspaper. A copy is enclosed herewith.

I suggest that your proposal makes a start at the real problems, but does not come anywhere near the basic bed-rock.

In this respect, please see copy of my letter dated July 31st to Senator Russell enclosed herewith.

Can a group be found which will advocate such measures?

Yours sincerely,

Nat

NAH:ghw

Encl.

*Thank
for news*



Eugene Patterson

Something New And Hopeful

Mayor Ivan Allen of Atlanta has handed Washington the first fresh idea to emerge from the smoke pall covering Detroit and the other devastated cities. Most suggestions for repairing the splintering society of the slums have been old stuff. And the antipoverty programs as presently constituted have not yet succeeded, obviously, in generating much community cohesion among the poor.

How, then, can programs grow out of the slums—instead of being pressed onto them—so the poor can develop a stake in their community that will hopefully discourage them from burning it down?

Allen's suggestion was simple, expensive, but promising.

The three great needs of the urban poor are jobs, housing and education, he reasoned. Supply the first two and education can follow.

So why not create jobs by building housing?

* * *

Set up a three-to-five-year crash program, he said. Recognize that rebuilding of the slums is of the highest national priority, so pour \$20 to \$30 billion of federal money per year into the job and get it done.

Tear down the slums of urban America and build back decent low-cost housing. Everybody—not just the poor—will gain by this salvage of the cities.

Make it a provision of contracts with the builders that a reasonable percentage of the men they hire must be the slum dwellers themselves.

Thus provide jobs (or training, and then jobs) for the jobless poor while also providing housing.

Like most good ideas, Allen's proposal has the virtue of directness and simplicity. It would work, if there were a national will to make it work. Certainly the nation wants something done by now; whether this Congress is bold enough to move decisively is another question.

* * *

Yet the mayor at least said something new. And he said it Monday in Washington, which is a place that needs to hear something new and hopeful. The President's mix of urban programs meets some needs; but a centerpiece project of such dimension as Allen proposes should appeal to him.

In the meantime, Atlanta's low-cost housing efforts must go on. And the Ebenezer Baptist Church, of which the Martin Luther Kings, father and son, are pastors, has joined the Rev. Sam Williams' Friendship Baptist and the Rev. William Holmes Borders' Wheat Street Baptist in setting an example that white churches might note. They formed a non-profit corporation, put up some seed money, and qualified under the federal 221-d-3 housing program to contract for the building of \$1.8 million worth of decent, low-cost housing on the site of a former slum, utilizing federal mortgage money at half the interest drawn by commercial loans. To the hundreds of slum poor who will be able to move into clean rooms at rents beginning at \$55, this is Christianity in action.

July 31, 1967

Senator Richard B. Russell
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dick:

Why is it impossible to get anyone to discuss the true causes of riots, civil disturbances, disorders and racial problems?

The actual facts are very simple, and have been developing over a long period of time.

These facts are:

1. Inflation, caused by top political leaders of both parties for "vote getting" purposes.
2. Inflation has been caused by willingness of top political leaders to stand idle while unions have pushed wage scales to unreasonable heights, and by political increase of minimum wage levels.
3. Increased wages have forced all employers to dispense with most unskilled workers.
4. Unskilled workers have migrated to areas especially conditioned for political nursing, and vote control.
5. Nursing and idleness become unacceptable and intolerable for teens and adults, both black and white, after some period of time. Different cities, or different geographical areas, probably have different time periods of tolerance in this respect.

Harry Hopkins announced this policy years ago as, "Spend and elect, elect and tax, tax and spend".

Effective treatment for these problems will be drastic, but until something effective is done there will only be continued deterioration on our national scene.

The most sensible and effective treatment would be:

1. Elimination of the 20¢ per hour increase in minimum wage scale, scheduled to become effective February, 1968.
2. Absolute refusal of top political leaders and all government agencies to sanction wage increases, both by unions and by governmental employees.

3. A freeze, or capping, of these policies for 5 or 10 years.
4. Excess Profits Tax for Business, Corporate & Personal for this period.
5. Location of future housing projects in rural areas, with some units spaced to provide green areas, and some spaced to provide working ground areas. Removal of unskilled persons (families) from central city areas to these rural areas.
6. Gradual improvement of education at all levels, with emphasis on trade schools above high school level. Forget about the hysterical approach to education, such as now exists which is in effect calling for a "college degree for everyone".

The elimination of the minimum wage ~~scale~~ increases, and other wage increases, plus imposition of excess profits taxes would permit our economy to take a breathing spell, with its primary purpose being to reduce the elimination of jobs for unskilled workers.

There is nothing dishonorable in being an unskilled worker. Only when our national attitude reaches a condition of hysteria does this have authoritative voice, and we are now apparently in that state. I think it is time labor is recognized for its worth, both unskilled and skilled.

It is certainly much better for an unskilled person to be busy at a productive job, than to be idle, on relief, or rioting. Make it possible for employers to provide unskilled jobs, instead of creating a climate which forces employers to eliminate unskilled jobs.

How can an effective group be put together, hopefully out of which a national leader could emerge to "put the seal" on this type of a national program? Is the country too far down the drain for the people to return to common sense?

I am sending this same letter to Senator Talmadge, Congressman Flynt, and Congresswoman Stephens.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

N. A. Hardin

I regard this as a national emergency. It is really more, truly than war -
 NAH:gtw
Unless we can develop a leader who can communicate the urgency of the situation to the people, and develop leadership to insure effective action, I think we are in a long range hopeless situation. Can't we do something about it? Even the some may regard necessary corrective action as "policy suicide".
 Sincerity.
 the voters may feel the effects if action is taken in
 No +

GRACE T. (MRS. H. C.) HAMILTON
DISTRICT 137
582 UNIVERSITY PL., N.W.
ATLANTA, GA. 30314

SECRETARY
SUB-COMMITTEE
(HYGIENE & SANITATION)
NURSING HOMES & HOMES FOR AGED



MEMBER COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
EDUCATION
HYGIENE & SANITATION
SUB-COMMITTEE
(EDUCATION)
COMMON SCHOOLS

House of Representatives

House Chamber

Atlanta

June 2, 1967

TO: Hon. Ivan Allen, Jr.

FROM: Grace T. Hamilton

I am glad to know about the planned meeting for the proposed neighborhood improvements in the Nash-Bans Community. I expect to attend the meeting on June 6th and am anxious to help in any way possible on the "temporary committee" looking toward the community organization of the area.

It occurred to me that there is a splendid opportunity in this instance to assemble initially a group of citizens who because of their long time relation to the area either through residence or because of economic and social interests in the area, together with elected representatives from all levels of government, to cooperatively consider what is in the best interest of the community and the city as a whole.

I am therefore strongly urging that all elected representatives be invited to be a part of the temporary committee as well as certain other individuals whose relation to the area you may not be aware of. I would also hope that the elected members of the citizens advisory committee for the Nash-EOA area have already thought of. For your information I am attaching the enclosed list which includes such individuals as I have been able to think of.

Some of these names may have already been included in your thinking. The point I wish to make is that the initial meeting where possibilities are presented for community consideration should include established leadership on the basis of election whether in governmental positions or in neighborhood service organizations.

GTH:ph

CC: Hon. Rodney Cook
Hon. Collier Gladin

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Senator Horace Ward
Rep. J. C. Daugherty
Rep. Julian Bond
Dr. Rufus Clement, Board of Education
William T. Knight, Board of Aldermen
Q. V. Williamson, Board of Aldermen
Dr. P. Q. Yancey, Fulton County Board of Health
581 Simpson Street, NW
(Dr. Yancey is a physician who practices in this neighborhood.)
Miles G. Amos, 3rd Ward, Atlanta City Executive Committee
856 Mason Turner Road, NW
(Mr. Amos operates a long established business in the area)
Dr. Wellington Parker, 3rd Ward, Atlanta City Exec. Comm.
424 Newport Street
(Dr. Parker also has been established in the area for a long time.)

OTHER INDIVIDUALS WITH A STAKE IN THE AREA

E. M. Martin, Executive Secretary, Atlanta Life Ins. Co.
250 Sunset Avenue, NW
(Mr. Martin is a long time resident of the neighborhood)

A. V. Jett, Chairman of the Board, Gate City Day Nursery Association, an agency which operates two facilities serving the area.
1158 Fountain Drive

R. O. Sutton, official with Citizens Trust Company
1056 Westmore Drive 30314
(Citizens Trust will probably be involved in any development in the area.)

Dr. John Middleton, President, Morris Brown College,
largest educational institution in the area.

Mrs. Louise Hector,
561 Meldrum Street
(Mrs. Hector is a past president of the Atlanta PTA Council and has been a pillar in all community activity)

PTA Presidents from English Avenue, Bethune, Ware and Washington Schools

*Copy
to
Mayor*

CITY OF ATLANTA



CITY HALL ATLANTA, GA. 30303

Tel. 522-4463 Area Code 404

IVAN ALLEN, JR., MAYOR

R. EARL LANDERS, Administrative Assistant
MRS. ANN M. MOSES, Executive Secretary
DAN E. SWEAT, JR., Director of Governmental Liaison

April 18, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Dan E. Sweat

FROM: Johnny H. Robinson

SUBJECT: Trash Pickups, Garbage Pickups in Adair Park, Mechanicsville, Peoplestown, Pittsburg and Vine City. Week of 10th thru 14th.

Adair Park: 5 loads of trash removed.
 2 junk cars removed.

Mechanicsville: 8 loads of trash removed.
 2 street lights repaired.

Peoplestown: 8 loads of trash removed.

Pittsburg: 17 loads of trash removed.
 9 junk cars removed.
 Sewer repaired on Hubbard Street.

Vine City: Approximately 8 loads of trash removed.

The past week the Mayor's Department has had splendid results from the Sanitary Department in assisting the residents in the clean up campaigns.

You will get a detailed report of all activities on the last day of the month.

CITY OF ATLANTA



April 25, 1967

CITY HALL ATLANTA, GA. 30303

Tel. 522-4463 Area Code 404

IVAN ALLEN, JR., MAYOR

R. EARL LANDERS, Administrative Assistant
MRS. ANN M. MOSES, Executive Secretary
DAN E. SWEAT, JR., Director of Governmental Liaison

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Earl Landers

From: Dan Sweat

Attached is a copy of a report prepared for Mayor Allen showing scheduled improvements or activities in four low-income areas of the city this summer.

Three of these areas are encompassed within the four target areas we have selected for the proposed pilot project to coordinate city services. The City Services Coordination program would include Kirkwood, Edgewood and several other identifiable neighborhoods adjacent to or near the areas covered in the attached Mayor's report.

In order that we proceed with planning and programming of the pilot project, the following recommendations are submitted.

1. Four positions should be created on a temporary basis for the period June 1 - September 1 to serve as city services coordinators in the Office of the Mayor. These coordinators would be on the salary range of Inspection Department area supervisors. They would be housed in EOA neighborhood service centers within each target neighborhood. For the proposed organizational chart see Attachment A.

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2. The city services coordinators would be responsible for identification of city service problem areas within their target neighborhoods and for communication of these problems to the proper city department or agency. They would be familiar with community groups as well as city departments and the services they offer.
3. The overall objective would be to identify problems and take remedial action before these problems generate unnecessary trouble within the area.
4. They would be under the coordination of Johnny Robinson from the Mayor's Office.
5. Each coordinator should be provided with one clerical worker. EOA has agreed to provide some neighborhood aides to assist in identification of problems and investigation of complaints. EOA will also provide space for a maximum of four housing code inspectors who will also be able to bring to the attention of the city services coordinators unfavorable conditions which exist and which should be corrected.
6. In communicating this proposed project to the department heads, it should be stressed that there is no intention that the city services coordinators would direct any department or departmental personnel to take any action. Once a problem is brought to the attention of the department it is up to the department to determine whether or not such action is justified and should be taken. In those cases where budgetary restrictions or legal restrictions prevent action from being taken, the city services coordinator will communicate messages to the community concerned with the problem.

I would recommend approval of this project at the earliest possible date in order that we might be able to select very carefully the

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four coordinators for this summer's program. Also we would need time to prepare complaint forms, informational material and briefing material for the coordinators and their staff assistants.

DS:fy

Attachments (2)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Mayor's Office

Director of Governmental Liaison

Community Development Coordinator

City Services Coordinator
(Based at Sum-Mec Center)

City Services Coordinator
(Based at Nash-Washington
Center)

City Services Coordinator
(Based at East Central
Center)

City Services Coordinator
(Based at Edgewood Center)

Adair Park

Pittsburg

Mechanicsville

Summerhill

Grant Park

People's Town

Vine City

Lightning

Nash-Bans

Bedford Pine

Buttermilk Bottoms

Boulevard

Cabbage Town

Edgewood

Kirkwood

Reynolds Town