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December 18, 1969

Mr. Sam Massell
Mayor-Elect
%Allan-Grayson Realty Company
40 Pryor Street, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Massell:

At the request of Mrs. Day, I am presenting our problem to you in this letter rather than waiting the several weeks until you will be available to discuss it in person.

As you know, the Atlanta Urban Corps is a student program now operating through the Mayor's office. The program is designed to offer students an avenue for constructive community service while expanding the relevance of their college education. The program has operated successfully since June, but is now facing a very uncertain future.

The Atlanta Urban Corps is being caught in the squeeze of the change of City Administrations. For six and one-half months, (since June 16, 1969), the City of Atlanta allocated \$76,000 for the operation of the Urban Corps. This money helped pay the compensation of City interns plus administration costs. In total, the program involved 300 students in 1969. We were asked to plan and document an expanded and improved program for fiscal year 1970. Of a total budget of \$650,000, the City was asked to allocate \$139,000 for administration and City interns. The total program was designed to include 660 students, of which 220 will work for City departments. Mr. Milton Farris has decided to allocate \$40,000 to pay both matching costs and administration. The matching costs alone will amount to some \$38,000, if our plans develop as they should. Obviously, this will leave little to operate an effective program.

Unfortunately, Mr. Farris is viewing the program only in dollar terms. I feel he has overlooked some important considerations concerning the Urban Corps. He has failed to grasp the importance of a meaningful relationship between the needs of the City and the potentials of the student community. It is wasteful to disregard the motivations, energies and abilities of the area students. We have plans and procedures to produce

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an effective 1970 program to build upon the documented success of our 1969 efforts. However, this serious budget cut, which represents only 28.5% of our original request and merely 6% of the total program cost, threatens to destroy the possibilities of the Urban Corps.

In real terms, the Urban Corps needs at least \$50,000 for program administration. I am asking for your personal intervention before the budget is passed to correct this situation. Mr. Dan Sweat will be glad to discuss the program with you, and is able to illustrate the benefits of the Atlanta Urban Corps. Of course, I am available and welcome the opportunity to discuss the matter with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Ken Millwood
Director

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