joint venture of DANIEL, MANN, JOHNSON and MENDENHALL and

ABT ASSOCIATES, INC.

55 wheeler street, cambridge, massachusetts 02138 telephone 617-492-7100

May 5, 1968

Hon Ivan Allen, Mayor Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Ivan:

As you may be aware, yours has been one of the candidate cities selected to participate in the first phase of the In-City Low Cost Housing Experiment to be undertaken by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Department has also selected as the contractor to conduct this Project in Atlanta a joint venture of two firms, Abt Associates Inc. and Daniel, Mann, Johnson and Mendenhall, for whom I am the project director. We are looking forward to working closely with you in the weeks and months ahead.

This new program is an opportunity for the cities to develop methods and will lend to the mobilization of substantial additional Federal funds as part of our increased national effort to deal with our urban problems. Your city may be able to take advantage of these opportunities of the first phase if the project is successfully completed. That first phase is a planning step which involves the development of new technology for the construction of low cost housing and the development of new patterns of organization both in the public and private sectors of the low cost housing area.

This initial phase must be completed by June 15th of this year. In order to begin work immediately, an advance team from our organization will be in Atlanta on May team and will contact your office. Enclosed with this letter are several copies of a list of topics on which we hope to begin compiling information during this initial visit. It would greatly facilitate this part of our effort if you would circulate these copies to informed members of your administration so that our initial efforts will be as fruitful as possible and create the least possible burden on your staff.

There are two other important tasks we hope to accomplish next week during our visit. The first is to have our advance team begin to make arrangements for a much more intensive visit by our staff within two or three weeks. The second and still more important task is to have them answer any and all questions that you or your administration might have about the project.

I am sure that you are as gratified as I am that programs such as this, long urged by many of us, are now being undertaken. Unfortunately a prior commitment keeps me out of town for the next day or two, but please do not hesitate to call either Mr. Richard M. Rosen or Mr. Marc J. Roberts at 617/492-7100 if there is any information we can give you about the enclosed list of subjects or about any other aspects of the program.

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I am looking forward to being in contact with you again soon. Let me close by saying that this is a tremendous opportunity, but that time is short so that we must all work together in order to bring this phase of the project to a successful conclusion.

Yours truly,

Honorable John F. Collins

JFC:jrl