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February 10, 1967

Hon. John M. Flanigen  
245 Third Avenue, S.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30317

Dear Mr. Flanigen:

Thank you very much for my copy of your letter to Mr. Leftwich of February 8, 1967 dealing with the needs at the Wesley Avenue Park.

Several months ago, Alderman Q. V. Williamson and Alderman Buddy Fowlkes and the undersigned met with citizens of the Wesley Avenue area and discussed the needs of the park. We explained to them that the Capital Improvement Budget would be made up shortly after January 1, and we would do our very best to include some funds for Wesley Avenue.

Our total Park Improvement Budget available for Capital Improvements is only \$302,590. It was not possible to finance the Community Recreation Building for Wesley Avenue during fiscal 1967; however, \$10,500 was allocated for fencing (\$2500) and lighting of the baseball field (\$8000). We were able to out of some surplus in our 1966 Budget to buy lights for the multiple use court and tennis area in the park. By copy of this letter, I am asking Miss Virginia Carmichael, Director of Recreation, to advise you as to the type of leadership and supervised recreation being offered in this neighborhood.

As to the condition of the park being deficient, mainly, because the wash of water to the area brings dirt and debris, I would like to explain that a private Landscape Contractor planted the entire park three times in grass without success. We were finally able to analyze the fact that the ground originally was occupied by a fertilizer manufacturing company and the chemical content was toxic towards the soil. We feel by this coming spring, that the excessive chemicals will leach out, and we will be able to establish a good stand of grass.



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It is certainly true that vandalism is going on at this and most other parks. Our workers have actually been shot at on two separate occasions while doing survey work within the park and our Labor Foreman was chased through the park by a local citizen who was suffering from the effects of glue sniffing.

We appreciate your interest in Wesley Avenue and wish to assure you that we too would like to have sufficient funds to build a first class community building; however, we have programed no buildings in any of our 1967 projects because of limit of funds.

Cordially,

Jack C. Delius  
General Manager of  
Parks and Recreation

JCD:bjw

cc: Hon. Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor ✓  
Hon. Charlie Leftwich  
Mr. Charles Turner, 1567 Paxon Ave., S.E.  
Miss Virginia Carmichael