

January 2, 1969

*File
Youth Council*

Mr. Milton G. Farris, Chairman
Aldermanic Finance Committee
Gulf Oil Corporation
P. O. Box 7245 - Station C
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Dear Mr. Farris:

I am writing as a result of a call meeting of the Atlanta Children and Youth Services Council Executive Committee, held this afternoon, to discuss recent newspaper accounts of reported recommendations of the Aldermanic Finance Committee on appropriations for 1969 to various departments and agencies of Atlanta City government. According to these reports, \$30,000 was listed for the Youth Council; this is the same amount appropriated for 1968.

The Youth Council submitted a documented account of the need for an increased appropriation for 1969, as instructed by your Committee. From all indications, the information we submitted was neither reviewed nor taken into consideration when 1969 budgets were processed. Or, if there was any question about the validity of our request, we have not been so informed up to this time.

It is the Youth Council Executive Committee's position that the Finance Committee should reconsider its reported recommendation of \$30,000 for 1969 for the following reasons:

1. The Council has operated at the \$30,000 level for the past three years. To ask that these operations continue at that level for 1969 is to, in effect, reduce the scope of program and activities when you consider requirements for even nominal increases in the cost of operations.
2. The Youth Council was totally or in part responsible for more than \$350,000 of federally funded proposals being channeled into Atlanta during 1968. This obviously indicates a high return on the City's \$30,000 investment in Youth Council operations.
3. The Youth Council staff has, for almost two years now, carried a maximum work load with less than a two-man full-time professional staff.

Mr. Milton G. Farris
January 2, 1969
Page 2

This situation simply cannot be expected to continue out of fairness to our highly competent Executive and his family.

4. The Youth Council staff, in addition to continuously working on proposals for federal subsidies for Atlanta programs, spends an equal amount of its time coordinating and assisting with the development of local agency programs, both public and private, throughout the City.
5. The Youth Council represents the only City-supported agency devoting its time 100 percent to the broad problem of coordination of youth services.

The Atlanta Children and Youth Services Council Executive Committee urgently requests that the Aldermanic Finance Committee consider the high-level quality of performance being demonstrated by the Council staff and the calibre of Board members appointed by you and the Mayor -- people who give so unselfishly of their time in dealing with problems of juvenile delinquency in the City of Atlanta. Surely you can understand our desire to have at least minimum necessary resources with which to carry out our delegated assignments. We hope you will act more favorably on our request for the 1969 appropriation than was reported recently in the Atlanta newspapers.

Cordially yours,

Jerry Luxemburger

JL:cd

cc: Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.