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CITY OF CHICAGO

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May 7, 1975

Derek Shearer
655 Ashland Avenue
Santa Monica, California 90405

Dear Mr. Shearer:

Enclosed are some ordinances and descriptions of various political experiments undertaken in Chicago since 1971 which might be included in the resource packet being assembled for the Conference on Alternative Local Public Policies.

The ordinances are as follows:

A. Anti-Redlining Ordinance. This legislation was originally introduced by myself and five other Aldermen in October, 1973. It was passed in March, 1974 and then amended at the August 21, 1974 City Council meeting. It requires all banks and savings and loans which wish to be Municipal Depositories for our \$200-\$300 million a year to sign an anti-redlining pledge and to reveal by zip code in 1975 and by census tract in 1976 and thereafter their savings deposits and their home & commercial loans. After a major power struggle more than fifty financial institutions complied with the ordinance.

B. Residential Building Security Ordinance. The Chicago building code does not require safety or security features to protect tenants from crime. This ordinance which I introduced December 30, 1974 attempts to establish regulations requiring landlords to provide deadbolt locks on apartment doors, bars for dangerous first floor windows, doors of solid construction, etc. This ordinance is still pending in the Building and Zoning Committee.

C. Cable Television Ordinance. This ordinance introduced in October, 1971 by eight Aldermen is similar to the A.C.L.U. model Cable TV ordinance as the Chicago A.C.L.U. worked with us in drafting this ordinance. It is still probably the most comprehensive regulation proposed in the country. Because of the F.C.C. ruling on cable T.V. and the political conditions in Chicago no cable regulations have been adopted. Yet this is still a good reference for cities which will be concerned with cable systems in the near future.

In addition to these ordinances I have created two new instruments of participatory self-government which I believe are worthy of being copied.

D. 44th Ward Assembly. The 44th Ward Assembly has two delegates elected from each of the 64 precincts in the ward and one delegate elected from each community organization with over 25 members. Any resident of the ward is automatically a member (non-voting) of the Assembly. It meets once a month at meetings which I as Alderman chair. By a 2/3's vote it can bind my vote in City Council or undertake projects in the ward. It has been very successful. A copy of news stories and the charter are enclosed. It has existed since January, 1972.

E. Community Zoning Board. The community zoning board controls the land use decisions of the 44th Ward. Enclosed is a copy of the proposed ordinance which would make such boards legal entities in Chicago and a copy of the current operating rules for the board. The Community Zoning Board Ordinance has been pending since June, 1974 in the City Council. Several newly elected aldermen are pledged to begin such boards in their wards in the near future.

If you should need further information on any of these efforts please let me know.

Yours faithfully,

Dick Simpson

Dick Simpson
44th Ward Alderman

- Enclosed:
1. Amended Redlining Ordinance (City Council Journal, August 21, 1974)
 2. Residential Building Security Ordinance
 3. Introduction to CATV Ordinance
 4. Chicago Cable Coalition Subscriber's Pledge
 5. Cable Television Ordinance
 6. Community Zoning Board Rules of Procedure
 7. Summary of Proposed Community Zoning Board Ordinance
 8. Community Zoning Board Ordinance
 9. Let's Fight Crime Together (Ward Assembly Brochure)
 10. Ward Assembly Scrapbook (Early News Stories)
 11. The 44th Ward Assembly Charter

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