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# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

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**Words Of Wisdom**  
This time, like all other times, is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it.  
—Emerson  
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To accept good advice is but to increase one's own ability.  
—Johann von Goethe

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## Downtown - Hayti: The Second Phase

Analysis

By Milton Jordan

Now that Durham seems to have its first phase of downtown development financially together, and has softened the black community's potential political punch on the issue, thinking appears to have quickly turned to the second phase.

In an announcement this week, the Durham Progress Group, the organization that originally carried the downtown development ball, said it has turned its eye to developing housing in the central city. The Progress Group, headed by Duke University president Terry Sanford, appears to be the "chess master", pulling together the pieces designed to lift Durham from the depths of economic doldrums to an aggressive growth posture.

Both the timing and the scope of this launching for phase two to revitalize downtown Durham is extremely significant in light of a number of recent events swirling around the downtown civic center proposal.

For about two months, the downtown civic center proposal teetered on an abyss of sketchy details and no firm financial figures. Everyone knows that the proposed project is a gamble, a calculated toss of developmental dice that if it works will bring the city \$50 million or more in downtown investment. But no one knew how much the stake was. Now city officials say the stake is \$10.5 million, slated to go before voters in a June 8 bond referendum.

Initially, the black community warned that their traditional support of progressive bond issues would be withheld this time unless the city made some firm plans regarding Hayti. Hayti, the former black community, was razed about twenty years ago to make way for downtown revitalization. Last week city officials said they would ask voters to approve a \$9 million bond for the proposed civic center and \$1.5 million in bonds for Hayti.

But the Durham City Council shot that idea in the dust Monday night, voting rather to use the entire \$10.5 million bond issue, if approved, for the civic center, and authorizing the city administration to include the \$1.5 million for Hayti in the upcoming budget requests for 1982-83. It appears, however, that the city council has managed to use that money as bait rather than a good faith assurance, because there are no obvious guarantees that the money will be appropriated if the bond issue is defeated.

Still the black community has one more trump that if played will come from the sidelines. If state legislators set the 1982 primary elections within thirty days of the proposed bond referendum, tentatively scheduled for June 8, then the bond vote will have to be postponed, according to one city hall source, and that might run the bond vote back to July, after the budget is approved.

But the question of how much money the city puts up for Hayti is not nearly as important as the question of a final development plan for the area.

There are two protagonists in this segment of the urban drama: the city and the Hayti Development Corporation. Each has vested interests. Each has a list of priorities. Winning will boil down to clout.

The city's plan, unveiled several months ago, originally featured housing as the centerpiece of Hayti redevelopment. The Hayti Development Corporation on the other hand leans toward more economic development in the area, more in line with the neighborhood's history. The two groups have been negotiating quietly for several weeks now to resolve the differences.

Recently, Durham City Manager Barry Del Castillo said the negotiations have been fruitful and that the two organizations are closer together. Nathaniel White, Jr., head of the HDC agrees that several issues have been worked out, but becomes a

lot more cautious in characterizing the group's proximity.

"We have resolved some matters," White said recently, "but there is still a lot more talking we have to do."

But "much more to do" might be too much, because with the Progress Group's announcement, the "chess master" gave up a pawn — the civic center plan — and moved a powerful "queen" into place.

The "queen" is Charlotte's powerful NCNB Community Development Corporation. No one will officially confirm any hard-nosed discussions with the Charlotte nonprofit organization that is one of the nation's foremost experts on developing downtown housing, but a series of interviews and other research indicates that the discussions have taken on specific parameters.

Nationally, downtown housing is a must for inner city revitalization because to resurrect the central business district, it must have a 24-hour daily life span. No organization knows more about how to do that, or has a bigger pool of resources, including money and developers than does the NCNB Community Development Corporation.

The Development Corporation was launched by NCNB, one of the southeast's biggest banks, in 1978, the first of its kind in the country. Its principle purpose was to spur housing development in Charlotte's Fourth Ward, an inner city neighborhood characterized by creeping blight and decay.

Today, Fourth Ward is called "the residential showplace of downtown Charlotte." It took about \$25 million in low-interest mortgage money and about \$2.3 million from the city in streets, sidewalks, parks and lighting to transform Fourth Ward from a delapidated disgrace to a showplace.

Now the Development Corporation is working in Greensboro in a similar project, but its eyes are turned steadily toward Durham.

Peter Saitta, director of the Downtown Durham Development Corporation that took the civic center lateral from the Progress Group and scooted downfield until the goal was close enough that the ball could be passed to local government, says about the Charlotte Corporation: "We've had some preliminary discussions, but certainly nothing concrete has developed."

City Manager Del Castillo says: "We've talked, but no specifics were discussed."

Says Dennis Rash, president of the NCNB Community Development Corporation: "There is no question in my mind but that Durham could be an interesting project. But while we've met with Durham officials, we have no firm plans at this time for Durham."

But in the NCNB Corporation quarterly report, dated March 31, 1981, there's the following statement concerning future plans for the Community Development Corporation: "NCNB Community Development Corporation is also involved in development phases for Charlotte's Third Ward (where work is currently getting underway) and other projects in Durham. . . ."

Apparently, there are three approaches for downtown housing being discussed in Durham. One considers the possibility of putting apartments on the uppermost floors of high rise office buildings. Another looks at condominiums and townhouses, while yet another considers rehabilitating historic districts and other salvageable neighborhoods.

In an interview from his Charlotte home, Rash mentioned three specific Durham neighborhoods as possible downtown housing sites: Trinity Park, North Durham and Hayti.

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### Demonstration - West. . .

While another demonstrator is led away (left), the Rev. Cecil Williams (right), a well-known minister, is handcuffed at the University of California's Lawrence Livermore Laboratory here last week. More than thirty demonstrators, protesting the laboratory's work on development of nuclear weapons for the Defense Department, were arrested on charges of obstructing traffic when they tried to block the main gate. Some 150 people, mostly seminarians and ministers, took part in the demonstration. UPI Photo

## Hillside Band Heads For Disney World - Hopefully!

By Donald Alderman  
Attention Durham Community: Hillside's world famous band needs your help. They need you to donate about \$25,000 to pay for the band's upcoming trip to play at the 10th anniversary celebration of Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Hillside's 160-member band recently received a special invitation from the Disney World Resort Complex to play during the anniversary parade and to perform a ten-minute concert in the sprawling theme park.

If the community fails to produce the money that will pay for four buses, three nights of lodging and some meals for the globe-trotting band, then the kids might be left to sulk in Durham in the "dumps" rather than frolicking in Florida's sun.

"The selection committee had to be very,

very strict in choosing, and the better sounding bands were naturally chosen," said Clarke Egerton, director of the band since 1967. "If we even blink our eye like we're not going, another band will be in our slot."

The tenth-year birthday party for the Walt Disney World Resort Complex in Orlando, Florida that opened in October, 1971, runs from January to December. It is dubbed "a year long and a smile wide".

Hillside's band will be presented as part of the Walt Disney World Birthday Party at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 7.

Parents of band students, the Hillside High School Band Parents Organization, are soliciting contributions that will help defray the cost of the trip. Community citizens can aid in two ways.

One can sponsor a student by submitting \$140 or one can send a contribution in any amount.

Checks should be made payable to the Hillside Band Parents Organization and should be mailed to: Mrs. Medessa Justice, the group's treasurer, 2109 Concord St., Durham, N.C. 27707.

According to Egerton, the band also plans to visit the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee on the return trip from Orlando, and the two trips should be educational and entertaining.

"It's a real high honor to perform at Disney World," Egerton said, besides the fun, you're getting a great deal of exposure.

"We thought we'd try to get the World's Fair in 1975; and, accepted the Harry Mendelson Memorial Plaque at the 1974 and 1977 Mardi Gras festivals.

The band is scheduled to leave Durham Wednesday, May 5 and return Sunday, May 9, spending most of Sunday in Knoxville.

History reveals the Hillside Band has racked up similar achievements.

Most recently the band participated in the 1980 Inaugural Parade for the Governor-elect of North Carolina, as it did in 1976; traveled to Six Flags Over Georgia in 1980 and gave a concert on Stone Mountain; represented North Carolina in Washington, D.C. at the nation's 1976 Bicentennial celebration;

received a certificate of appreciation from President Gerald Ford during his visit to Durham in 1975; and, accepted the Harry Mendelson Memorial Plaque at the 1974 and 1977 Mardi Gras festivals.

## Rollout Garbage: Easier But Fewer Jobs

By Milton Jordan  
Durham's predominantly black garbage collection work force will find their jobs a lot easier and more attractive if the city adopts a proposed rollout garbage collection program. Additionally, city officials project that garbage collection will also be significantly less costly and much more productive under the new program.

A rollout program would have city residents pushing city-furnished refuse containers to the curb on collection days where they will be dumped by a hydraulic lift on the garbage truck. This reduces the heavy lifting traditionally associated with collecting garbage.

Currently, city refuse collectors pick up garbage twice weekly in residents' backyards, dumping the garbage

cans into rolling carts that are then dumped by hydraulic lift into garbage trucks.

City sanitation director, Robert Mitchell said the proposed rollout program if implemented will improve worker morale and reduce turnover. It will also, according to Mitchell, hold down costs and increase productivity because it will cut the time of each residential pickup, allowing fewer people to cover more territory.

It is not clear yet exactly what impact the rollout program will have on job security for black refuse collectors. Mitchell says that work force reductions will be handled by attrition, that is, not filling jobs as workers quit. But a related effect of the proposed program might be to attract more white men and women to the work, which is a goal of

the city's affirmative action policy.

But easier work, cost reductions and increased productivity notwithstanding, Durham citizens seem to overwhelmingly oppose the change. Reasons appear to center around not wanting to roll garbage to the curb, not wanting garbage cans lined along front yards, ruining neighborhood aesthetics one or two days a week, questions about how older people will handle the large rollout containers, and the appearance that the city is reducing the level of its garbage collection service.

City officials, on the other hand, say that all these objections have reasonable answers, and the proposed program involves larger issues.

"From an administrative point of view, our task is to find

ways to best provide this service more cost effectively," said Mitchell. "It all boils down to money."

Currently, the city's garbage collection is costing more than \$3.2 million. To initiate the rollout program will cost about \$1.3 million, but, according to Ms. Ellen Goldman, a city budget analyst, the program could save the city from \$355,000 to \$420,000 each year.

"We feel that the \$355,000 projected savings is extremely conservative," Ms. Goldman said. "And if we take the larger savings as a measure, almost \$310,000 of the reductions would be personnel related."

She also said that about \$14,000 could be saved in workman's compensation premiums

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### . . . Demonstration - East

Some of the crowd of counter-demonstrators who forced about a dozen Ku Klux Klan members to seek sanctuary in the Duval (Florida) County Courthouse. The KKK was protesting the firing of one of its members from his job at the Sheriff's office. UPI Photo