

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert G. Simpson, President

FROM: A. M. Rich, Project Committee Chairman

DATE: July 16, 1981

RE: Potential Projects, 1981-1982

On July 1, 1981, the Projects Committee and Government Structure & Finance Committee held a joint meeting to discuss possible Citizens' League projects for 1981-1982. After considerable discussion of a wide range of topics, several things became evident. First, there was concern over the entire question of providing urban services. What services are essential? How should they be provided? How much will they cost? How should they be financed? What are the problems associated with the present structure of government? What changes should be made and how?

The specific services talked about were: water, sewer, streets and highways, mass transportation, parks and recreation facilities, health care, housing, and tele-communications.

Concern was expressed over the need to develop an educational program that can be taken to schools, civic groups, etc., showing existing and developing problems and suggesting possible alternative solutions.

Another topic of interest was how do we effectively monitor the activities of existing regional governments and report back to League members. Governments expressly mentioned were Metro, Tri-Met and the Port of Portland.

Other topics were: study the advantages and disadvantages of forming a lower Columbia Port Authority, review the by-laws of the League and suggest ways to increase member involvement and the role of counties.

For your information, the Citizens' League in the Twin Cities area has the following current topics of study:

1. The desirability of basic changes in the way primary-secondary schools are run;
2. Designing a resource recovery plan that does not lock households into a monopoly when disposing of refuse;
3. Unblocking resistance to regional parks in the eastern part of the metropolitan area;
4. Dealing with the budget dilemma faced by the state with declining or stagnant revenues and expanding needs;
5. Determining the potential role that taxis might play in the transportation system of the area;

6. Looking at the question of fundamental government structure to see where improvements can be made;
7. Finding a way to use market forces to hold down hospital costs as opposed to continued reliance on regulation through the certificate of need; and
8. Seeing if rent control is a solution to any of the area's housing problems.

To accomplish the above, that League has three study committees and five task forces. They have been given more specific, focused assignments with the hope of ending up with shorter reports produced in less time. Membership on the study groups is assigned on the basis of membership preference, residence, experience, special knowledge, sex and private governmental occupations.

I believe it is necessary to get our members who wish to actively participate busy at studying relevant topics. I suggest that each of you review the topics listed above and add any subjects you want discussed by the Board. At the August meeting, the Board should adopt a list of study topics and be prepared to get on with establishing study committees with specific charges and deadlines.

AMR:amn

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

LAND USE TASK FORCE:

Bill Moshofsky, Chairman
Robert E. Stacey, Jr.
Beth Blunt
Richard Carson
Frank Cooper
Jan Egger
Paul Eisenberg
Clarence Koennecke
Alice T. Meyer
Terry Morgan
Nawzad Othman
Gene Peterson
Anne Picco
Stan Pintarich
Thomas Questad

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE & FINANCE:

Phil Adamsak
Brian Bearwood
Don Carlson
Ron Cease, Chairman
Pat Giardina
Larry Griffith
Chuck Kemper
Delyn Kies
Darleane Lemley
Ned Look
Leanne MacColl
Ken Martin
Wanda Mays
Sally McCracken
Burke Raymond
Bob Weil

PROJECTS:

McKay Rich, Chairman
Leeanne MacColl
Phil Adamsak
Bob Weil
Ron Cease
Larry Griffith
Duane Lemley
Don Carlson
Elaine Cogan
Ken Martin
Norene Goplen
Ned Look
Brian Bearwood
Burke Raymond
Chuck Kemper

NOTE: Those of you looking for new committee members please check your membership list code to see what kind of activities have been indicated. All members who volunteer should be asked to participate on a committee.

To: Committee Chairs
From: Beth Blunt, Executive Director
Subject: Update: Committee Activity/

As most of you know, Ron will be filing as a political candidate around the first of the year. Between now and then, both he and I are very interested in developing strong committees with the ability to interact periodically.

In order to work well, we're going to have to get to know each other, work more closely, develop a sense of common direction, envision realistic goals and follow through. MCL could and should become the logical source for regional specialists. It has structure, the people and the potential. I hope that it also has the commitment.

I'm glad to be able to report that we are going to have more "public awareness" type TV coverage in two areas. Ken Martin's Education Committee is working on a second film segment dealing with government structure through cable TV. KOIN TV, which produced the public service announcement that is running currently, has agreed to do some additional 10 second spots.

To add substance to the image, we have to recognize that committee activity doesn't mean much if nobody knows what we're doing. So, I'd like to suggest that we develop a work sheet that can act as the basis of an activity calendar to complement our brochure. It would provide committee names, each committee's "charge", how many members you find optimal, whether you have openings, and what regional problem(s) you've decided to tackle.

People won't have to wonder what we're doing if we're visible enough to make it obvious, especially if what we're doing seems to have a definable purpose and some hope of result. Perhaps that should be our primary goal.

So that I can be of more help to you, I'd also like to know whether you need or would like interns to handle survey, data analysis or final reports. Ron and I will be meeting with graduate students involved in a "5th Year" program at Lewis and Clark on October 24 to see whether some of them might be interested in working with our committees on a "class credit only" basis. Since not all or them are pressed for money, I've tried to convince their advisor that experience gained through committee activity might be a valuable alternative to a paid job. He's tentatively agreed. So, I want to be sure that we can make a convincing proposal, since success with this first group might mean continuing committee internships for MCL.

Although you all have tight schedules, I'd like to begin meeting with you as a group once a quarter, beginning Wednesday, November 2 at an 8:00 a.m. breakfast meeting. I listed the Ione Plaza as a meeting place, but if the Portland Motor Hotel is better for parking, let me know.

I've enclosed a work sheet that I'd like you to send back. I know that all this is a pain, but I hope that by taking this tack, we can take MCL out of the "poor relation" category, and put it in place as an innovative, class act. If you'd be interested, I'd like to both talk and work with you.

Committee Activity Worksheet

PART I

Name of Committee

Committee Charge

Optimal Number of Members ()

Would additional members be helpful now?

()Yes ()No

What is the current status of your committee work:

Determining committee's "charge" ? ()

Resource and information survey ? ()

Data Analysis ? ()

Final Report ? ()

Would graduate student "interns" be of help?

At which phase? See above.

Please give "WISH LIST" estimate of best use your committee could make of student help
ex:type of help;length of service;expected result

END OF PART I

PART II

Would you attend a periodic "brainstorming" meeting for all committee chairs to develop a committee Resource/Information Pool;(2) to explore the relevance of regional issues,vis-a-vis MCL;(3)to submit recommendation re need for ad hoc committee formation to the president/board; (4) and to unearth problems and innovative solutions noted in your respective committees?

Do you feel that your committee members should be approached to form the the nucleus of:

- a speaker's bureau? ()Y:()N
- a business/professional networking unit? ()Y:()N
- a regional outreach program to Tri-County suburban new/small business ? ()Y:()N
- a regional outreach program to schools/colleges?()Y:()N
- a legislative subcommittee? ()Y:()N

As committee chair, would you be willing to give, prepare,or help to prepare testimony on issues that your group has studied,subject to presentation to, and approval by the board and the president? ()Y;()N

Could we meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 2 at the Ione Plaza restaurant to discuss these things?