

To: Joel 11-23-93  
From: Greg  
Re: Neighborhood Councils "Battle Plan"

Here's a plan for how to proceed with the Neighborhood Councils idea.

#### THE PLAYERS

##### **Neighborhood Councils Movement:**

This group is primarily comprised of some old Jerry Brown "We the People" people. They are largely based in Echo Park and points west.

I've met with them several times. They seem to favor the Hayden position of giving the councils real power and elected them at the ballot box.

They are floundering because they are too caught up in trying to design too much detail into how neighborhood councils would be designed. Although they think of themselves as a grassroots movement, they might be trying to place themselves at the top of the heap in designing a system for the city. Their problem will eventually become their inability to convince people in other communities that they should accept the design and parameters designed by this group of people in Echo Park who lack diversity.

Each time we meet, they want to know what's happening with our efforts and the Mayor's office. Of course, I never have anything but delays to give them.

##### **Multi-cultural Collaborative:**

Following the riots, 12 ethnically diverse groups formed this organization. Stuart Kwoh, who was a Human Relations Commissioner, suggested that they talk to us about our plan.

I met with them, and they seemed very receptive to our concept. Like so many other groups, they don't have the resources to take this task from the ground up. They are anxious to be given some guidance.

##### **Winning Team:**

I'm simply not sure who these people are, although I've met with them. They are apparently under contract with Pasadena to help them develop a neighborhood councils system. And I'm certain that they would like a contract with us.

I don't know where their funding comes from. It is possible that they are church-based. I've been meaning to check with Pasadena.

They say that their purpose is to develop a way for cities to begin neighborhood councils if they want to, as opposed to them designing one for us.

**Mayor's Office:**

I was going to meet with Jadine to begin discussing our ideas, and then she quit. Robin thinks that she's the one I should now talk to. We'll talk shortly. Each time the Mayor or his staff are questioned about the neighborhood empowerment issue, they defer to us.

THE NEXT STEPS

1. Look at the attached concept paper. I need something to give to certain people before I meet with them so they have time to think about it, and not just hear it from me cold in our first meeting.

2. I will meet with Robin Kramer ASAP, and see how close we are on the concept. I have to explain to her how we got to this point, and the commitments that RR made to the concept during and after the election.

3. We'll design a campaign. Probably start with community groups before we go to Councilmembers. This will give us our first meaningful contact with many community and ethnic groups throughout the city.

4. When you and Mayor feel comfortable that the plan is good, and there is support for it, we'll figure out a way for you and Mayor to announce the plan and issue the Executive Order.

THE STRATEGY

If you and the Mayor agree with the basic concept, the best way sell it to the community groups is as a true grassroots effort.

Although some groups would like to change the Charter to give the groups real power, this decision should be made by the council members themselves meeting as a Neighborhood Congress.