-----Original Message-----
From: Meeks, Amy [mailto:Amy.Meeks@co.fulton.ga.us] On Behalf Of Pitts, Robb
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2006 10:19 AM
To: Cam A. McCord
Subject: FW: City Jail

Mr. Bondurant:

Commissioner Pitts asked me to forward you an e-mail he received from Mayor Shirley Franklin regarding jail negotiations. Her e-mail is in response to an e-mail that he sent yesterday updating constituents on the jail negotiations.

You should have received a copy of the e-mail that he sent yesterday. If this is not the case, please let me know and I will forward it to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Commissioner Pitts or his chief of staff, Harriet Thomas.

Sincerely,

Amy Meeks
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Robb Pitts
Fulton County Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor St.
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 730-8210

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From: Shirley Franklin [mailto:SFranklin@AtlantaGa.Gov]
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2006 4:19 PM
To: Pitts, Robb
Cc: Greg Pridgeon
Subject: City Jail

Commissioner Pitts -

My staff has shared with me the email you sent out earlier today titled "Fulton County Still Looking for Solution to Solving Jail Overcrowding Issues". I object to the strong implication that we are somehow being deceptive related to available jail space, as well as the notion that we're not being responsive to the County's problem.

As you know, I've been involved in the management of the City of Atlanta for nearly 20 years at this point, and as Mayor I remain committed to basing public policy on facts. The facts as I understand them are:

The City jail has a total capacity of approximately 1300, but due to restrictions of pod design (male/female, medical, etc.) the realistic number is around 1200.

We have obligated 350 beds to the Marshalls and 150 to Immigration (ICE) On any given day, they may use less than that, but by contract, we have to maintain 500 beds in capacity for their use.

The City use is divided into two pieces - sentenced prisoners and pre-trial detainees. Our 2005 peak numbers in those categories were 243 and 327, respectively. We obviously must maintain capacity to handle peak volumes with some margin for error, or we risk a situation like the one Fulton now finds itself in.

If you add up the numbers (500 fed beds, 570 COA prisoners) you get 1070 beds needed to adequately respond to existing obligations. We have offered Fulton 150 beds, and I feel strongly that given our current obligations, that offer is generous and responsible.

I hope that this new information will be of use to you.

Sincerely,

Shirley