



CITY OF ORLANDO

December 11, 2003

Mayor Buddy Dyer
City Hall
Orlando, Florida

Dear Mayor Dyer,

For the last nine months I have had the honor and privilege of serving you and the citizens of Orlando as your Chief of Staff. Asking me to serve in this position has given me the opportunity to serve the citizens of a truly great city.

More importantly, it has given me the opportunity to watch a Mayor truly begin to change a city. You had less than twelve hours to transition to the job of Mayor. Yet, as a result of your leadership you attacked and balanced the city's 23 million dollar budget deficit within weeks of taking office.

You have reestablished the city/county relationship, and today the citizens of Orlando watch you and Chairman Crotty work together to solve the problems our region faces.

As promised, you have been a hands-on Mayor, reorganizing city government and creating a Cabinet allowing your Department heads to report directly to you. In lean times you have managed to honor your pledge to expand pre-K in our city schools. You have created a Parramore Task Force to address the difficult problems of that neighborhood, and you are committed to revitalizing our downtown.

To that end, this past Monday you won approval for the demolition and redevelopment of the Tavistock block, the new CNL Tower and the 55 West project. These three projects will certainly turn the tide of redevelopment in downtown Orlando. Again, as a result of your leadership, two years from now downtown Orlando will be the great city you have challenged all of us to dream of and to build.

Most Mayors who face the daunting downtown redevelopment issues you have faced spend an entire four-year term in office attempting to rebuild their city. You have managed to achieve that goal in nine short months.

You have allowed me to be a part of all the good you have created for this city, and for that I will always be grateful. Helping you achieve the goals you have for this city has been exhilarating, but it has also been an exhausting 24/7 challenge.

For that reason, I must offer my resignation as your Chief of Staff in order to focus on my new family and to rediscover weekends. My hope is that you will accept my resignation knowing you have my respect and loyalty, and the greatest admiration for you both as the Mayor of this city and as a person.

Sincerely,

David K. Dix
Chief of Staff