

c.c. David Doniger

July 12, 1973

Mr. John Mitovich
President
Stamford Area Commerce &
Industry Association
1 Bank Street
Stamford, Conn. 06901

Dear Mr. Mitovich:

We were most pleased that Rusty Crawford, our Chairman, could join you in your Annual Meeting. That is small recompense for the efforts that your organization, through Pobie Johnston, has made on behalf of Regional Plan Association. I do hope that we can continue to be mutually supportive on behalf of common objectives.

I thought you might also be interested in seeing the results of our Town Meeting series, Choices for '76. You will note that on nearly three-quarters of the issues, people who sent in ballots to us are in agreement on what ought to be done--regardless of their race, age or income. Since we anticipated in advance that the ballots would tend to come from people who had more education and income than the average, we commissioned George Gallup to conduct two scientific polls of 1500 people each, one before the series and another afterwards. What we found was that on 10 of the 11 issues the population as a whole agreed with those who sent in ballots.

The question we are now addressing is what can be done to generate action to follow up on the ballot results. We have been awarded a small grant from the Sachem Fund which will make it possible to conduct informational meetings with four leadership groups in Connecticut: businessmen, journalists, state legislators, and civic activists. In order to plan the format of the meetings and to get advice on who to invite, we are creating small citizen committees with a cross-section of leaders in Stamford, Bridgeport, New Haven and Waterbury. Would you be interested in having SACIA take the lead in putting the Stamford Committee together, as the New Haven and Waterbury Chambers are doing?

I am going away for a few weeks, but have asked Mike McManus, the Executive Director of Choices, to give you a call next week.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

JPK/wk
Enc.

John P. Keith
President