



**SHARPE JAMES**

MAYOR

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

07102

April 10, 1987

Mr. Seymour Rosen, Director  
SPACES  
1804 North Van Ness  
Los Angeles, California 90028

Dear Mr. Rosen:

I am in receipt of and most appreciative of your valued letter concerning the five year old "Ark" owned by Ms. Kea Tawana, presently located on the property of the Humanity Baptist Church at Bergen and 14th Streets.

In retrospect, for five years, the City of Newark has not enforced city ordinances encompassing said structure and location. During this time I need not remind you of known problems and charges encountered during a policy of "selective enforcement" in a city struggling for neighborhood revitalization. The Ark has never been seaworthy. Other legitimate concerns involving safety, health hazards, taxes, water and sewer usage went unanswered as well.

I, therefore, would be remiss in my duties if I did not address statutory and legal concerns as posed by Newark and your municipality as well. As Mayor of the great City of Newark I must constantly weigh my personal love of art, cultural enrichment and folklore in concert with my oath of office to uphold the law for all citizens. No one can be above the law.

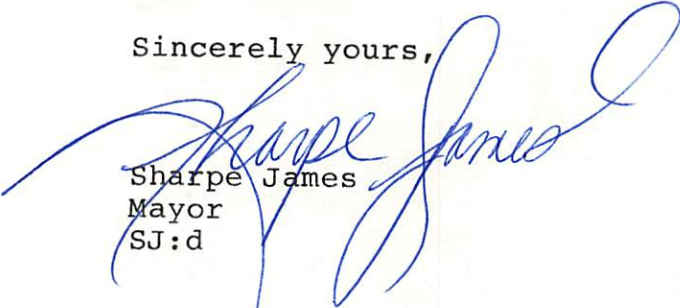
Please rest assured that a fair and honest evaluation of this situation will be conducted by my office. I also have requested that our municipal ombudsman immediately explore the issue.

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I sincerely appreciate your heartfelt comments and assure you that the Ombudsman's Office will conduct a timely and impartial investigation. Thank you for taking the time to write.

All the best.

Sincerely yours,



Sharpe James  
Mayor  
SJ:d