

MAYOR'S OFFICE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

ROBERT H. HARLIN
MAYOR
EBER W. BADCON
SECRETARY

October
17th
1931

Honorable City Council,
Seattle, Washington.

Gentlemen:

As you know, there is urgent need that a substantial sum of money be made available as speedily as possible for unemployment relief.

More than 5000 heads of families have registered with the Commission for Improved Employment, created jointly by your Honorable body and myself. It becomes our joint duty to furnish employment to as many of these unemployed citizens as it is practicable to do, with funds that can now be made available on improvement and betterment projects, under the Park Department and other departments of the city where manual labor can be employed.

With this in mind, I find upon investigation that, in addition to the sum of \$180,000 in the Sewer Construction Fund, we have \$25,000 in the General Road and Bridge Fund, and \$95,000 in the Bridge G-2 Fund, making a total of \$380,000 available money that can be used in whole or in part upon unemployment relief projects.

In a conference with City Treasurer Collier this morning, it was suggested that the sum of \$200,000 could be loaned from the General Fund to the Special Emergency Unemployment Fund, for use in the interim between now and the end of this year.

It is not my purpose to presume to advise your Honorable body as to the methods by which monies may be made immediately available for unemployment relief work, but I do respectfully urge that the matter be made one for immediate consideration, in view of the urgent need of so many of our unemployed citizens.

Having created a commission for improved employ-

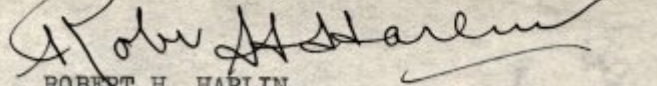
Citation: Petition of Mayor relating to appropriation of aid for unemployed, October 17, 1931. CF 133267. Comptroller Files, 1802-01, Seattle Municipal Archives.

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ment, and having outlined work of benefit to the city that may be commenced immediately, we are under an obligation of good faith to do whatever is practical and feasible, at the moment, to provide the necessary revenues for the employment of as many of our unemployed men as is possible under existing circumstances.

Yours very truly,



ROBERT H. HARLIN,
Mayor.

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