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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. *def*

TALKING POINTS:

RNC MAJOR CITY CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1975

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1. IT'S A PLEASURE FOR ME TO JOIN YOU HERE THIS AFTERNOON FOR THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE'S MAJOR CITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. IF WE EXPECT TO RUN A WINNING RACE IN 1976, WE NEED SUPPORT FROM THE BIG CITIES -- AND WE NEED TO START NOW IN DEVELOPING THAT SUPPORT.

2. A LOT OF NOMINAL DEMOCRATS IN THE BIG CITIES HAVE BEGUN

TO TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT THE POLITICAL SYSTEM. THEY AREN'T

REPUBLICANS YET BY A LONG SHOT -- BUT THEY ARE NO LONGER DYED-IN-THE

WOOL DEMOCRATS EITHER.

IN 1972, THEY OVERWHELMINGLY REPUDIATED THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL

CANDIDATE; IN 1976, WE MUST OFFER THEM NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES WHO VOICE THEIR CONCERNS AND INSPIRE THEIR

TRUST AND CONFIDENCE.

IF WE DO THAT, I BELIEVE WE CAN REVERSE THE FLOW OF POLITICAL POWER  
IN AMERICA'S BIG CITIES. WE CAN PUT AN END TO THE ONE-PARTY  
MONOPOLY THAT SO MANY OF THEM HAVE SUFFERED UNDER TOO LONG.

3. BUT TO WIN THIS BATTLE WE NEED MODERN, EFFICIENT  
AND RESPONSIVE REPUBLICAN PARTY ORGANIZATION. THAT'S WHY  
YOU'RE HERE FOR THIS CONFERENCE. THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TO ASK  
FOR YOUR HELP IN THIS EFFORT.

4. REPUBLICAN VICTORIES IN THE MAJOR CITIES ARE  
EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, NOT FOR THE PARTY ALONE BUT FOR THE CITIES  
THEMSELVES. OUR PARTY NEEDS THE VOTES YOUR GREAT CITIES CAN  
DELIVER. THE CITIES NEED THE LEADERSHIP REPUBLICANS HAVE  
TO OFFER.

5. THE LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS OF AMERICA'S CITIES IS  
A MATTER OF THE HIGHEST CONCERN TO MY ADMINISTRATION. THESE  
GREAT CENTERS OF COMMERCE AND CULTURE, COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC  
SERVICE CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO FALL UNDER THE GREAT WEIGHT OF PROBLEMS  
THAT NOW BESET THEM. BUT NEITHER CAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
RESCUE EVERY CITY IN AMERICA FROM ITS OWN PAST MISTAKES.

6. TOO MANY DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATIONS HAVE  
SOWN THE WIND WITH PROMISES THEY COULD NOT KEEP AND  
AMERICA'S CITIES ARE LEFT TO REAP THE WHIRLWIND OF FINANCIAL  
CRISIS, FAILING SERVICES, AND EXPECTATIONS UNFULFILLED.

7. REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE MAJOR CITIES --  
AS DEMONSTRATED SO WELL BY MAYOR PETE WILSON IN SAN DIEGO,  
FOR EXAMPLE -- CAN MAKE THOSE CITIES NOT ONLY GOVERNABLE,  
BUT ENJOYABLE PLACES IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK.

8. EVERY CITY HAS ITS OWN PERSONALITY, ITS OWN  
RESOURCES, ITS OWN SPECIAL PROBLEMS. BUT EVERY CITY IN  
AMERICA STANDS TO BENEFIT FROM THE SOUND FISCAL AND PROGRAM  
MANAGEMENT THAT IS A BEDROCK OF REPUBLICAN POLICY AND A HALLMARK  
OF REPUBLICAN PERFORMANCE.

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9. TAKE THAT MESSAGE HOME TO YOUR PEOPLE,  
AND YOU WILL BRING THEM INTO THE REPUBLICAN COLUMN  
IN NOVEMBER OF 1976.

END OF TEXT