

measurable, we have the sophistication and the ability to make measurements as far as density is concerned, and delinquency and crime are concerned, and public health and education. And if we don't do this and don't do it in a sophisticated fashion, then we are dismissing as an alternative the establishment of a priority that is perfectly constant.

Secretary WEAVER. We have no objection to that. We are in complete agreement with that. But there is the other side of the coin, and that is the ability of the cities to make a success of this within a reasonable period of time. If you are going to give some demonstrations and some illustrations, you not only have to have the need, but you have to save the ability to carry through with the need.

Mr. BARRETT. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. Fino?

Mr. FINO. Mr. Secretary, is there any ceiling or limitation on the number of programs within a city? I am thinking of New York City particularly, where you have Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant. Can you have two programs within that city at one time?

Secretary WEAVER. Definitely. The only limitation there would be is that each of them would have to be large enough to make a significant impact on the area that we are dealing with. You would not take a block here or a block over there. But if you took a section which would have significance, you could cover several areas. And it would seem to me, knowing New York City as I do, and as you do, that this would probably be the type of approach a city like New York would normally take.

Mr. FINO. Getting back to some of the discussions we have had here regarding the coordinator, besides creating new jobs, why couldn't you have the job of coordinating to the existing regional directors of the FHA? I think you have about 76 around the country. Why couldn't they do the job?

Secretary WEAVER. I think for two reasons. In the first place, I don't think proximity necessarily means availability or ability. The present directors of FHA are pretty busy people. They have tremendous pressures upon them. And they have a job of handling mortgage insurance which is quite different from the job of dealing with coordination of Federal, local, and State programs. They are, in many instances, inexperienced in this particular type of activity. Some of them may be temperamentally not suited for this. And others may not be interested in this. And finally, I think they are fully employed in their present job. The net result of using them for this purpose would be to dilute their efficacy in their present job and to find them not too efficient in the new job.

Mr. FINO. We have experienced a little difficulty, and in some instances great difficulties, in our private programs throughout this country. What is to prevent your Department through your commissar or coordinator from getting involved in local politics in the same manner as we had the means in the poverty program?

Secretary WEAVER. The first thing is to prevent him from being a commissar—which he will not be.

The second thing I think is the type of program which we have proposed here. And this is why we talk about a demonstration program. It is so that we can have flexibility, so that we do not have to