

There is much to be said for a national competition of excellence in planning and programing the massive projects required in each city seeking to be selected for this national program. It will create great community spirit and awareness of the stakes. I might add parenthetically that in our city, Detroit, we have already begun just such a community organization effort. On February 8 a meeting of community leaders was held to mobilize our residents and business and labor and educational leadership. There was unanimous agreement to seek to be selected as one of the demonstration cities, and a resolution setting up an organization committee was passed on motion by Mr. Walker Cislser, chairman of the board of the Detroit Edison Co. And I think that indicates as well as anything I can mention the great community support which this idea has, because originally the suggestion to call such a meeting came from the very distinguished Walter Reuther, president of the United Automobile Workers. We had business labor leadership and management leadership represented at that meeting.

While we are organizing in this fashion to assure total community support and involvement, it may well be that other cities will find this gearing up phase more difficult. We have many qualified people in the public and private sector whom we can call upon for assistance in drafting the comprehensive Detroit blueprint for the demonstration city. But other cities may not be able to do so as readily. We feel that planning for this program can be started immediately, and, as we did in our preparation for the antipoverty program, we will be ready for action programs when the legislative process is completed.

We feel further that objective criteria can be included by legislative mandate and administrative determination. There is no need to set up a competition or a judging through panels of the merit of a city's submission. There will be the requirement of a comprehensive plan to right the ills of a major area within the community to assure that both physical and social renewal will take place.

I know the city of Detroit is prepared to meet such objective criteria, and I feel sure the other mayors who will testify on this proposal are in accord with the idea that a national competition is not a necessity.

Second, aside from the "first come, first served" view I have just expressed, there is the need to recognize the real possibility that existing Federal programs are not adequately funded to do the job. Thus, if urban renewal funds are to be further depleted by being allocated to demonstration cities, there will be an unfortunate "magnetizing" of existing funds to the detriment of other cities.

The inadequacy of funds available for urban renewal, neighborhood facilities, manpower retraining, antipoverty community action programs, Hill-Burton hospital construction and modernization funds, Elementary and Secondary Education Act funds, urban beautification and open space, water and sewer facilities—to name just a few—these funds will be inadequate to do what is proposed here.

The effect is twofold. Not only is there not enough money to fund existing programs to be used in the target areas of the demonstration cities, but there is not enough money for the complementary programs required to mount a comprehensive attack. To illustrate: In urban renewal today, as I am sure you gentlemen know, there is a backlog roughly estimated at \$800 million. Assuming that an urban renewal