

gress is being asked to provide the funds that are necessary to finance the war in Vietnam. But it must also provide the funds for a critical domestic program which is needed to create a measure of stability and a better life in our own urban centers.

We now have two study groups at work in New York City preparing comprehensive programs of physical and human renewal. And we are preparing our response to the specifics of the demonstration cities approach of concentration and coordination. However, there is so much to do, and our accumulation of urban ills is so great—over so many years, that it becomes ever more clear that we must look to the Federal Government for assistance on a nondiscriminatory basis. We should not be prejudiced simply because our city is big and our problems proportionately larger. All the more reason to tackle them. For these are the new years of the city. The city must be at long last recognized. The city in this country can no longer be short-changed in the establishment of national priorities and needs.

We all recognize that the sense of despair in slum and blighted areas of New York and other cities, in the midst of rising national affluence, has led to alienation from society on the part of many, to total apathy for others, and to a serious threat of violence for still others.

But when one walks the streets of our city he sees another, very different, side of the slum. The Harlem residents who are at work on the dramatic project rehabilitating buildings on 114th Street express a deep sense of the pride in their own accomplishment. They seek and are ready for increasing responsibility and expanding opportunity.

In the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, the determination of homeowners and tenants to improve their neighborhood, over the most desperate odds, deserves our deep respect and our wholehearted support. We cannot afford the loss of this impetus.

We will continue to hear cries of despair and anger from the tragic ghettos of our cities. But I believe that the loudest voices cry out for the resources, the programs and the training for self-improvement. It is my hope that this legislation will lead us in that direction.

I would hope that this committee and the Congress would support this proposal, not out of a sense of fear, but out of a profound feeling of hope.

The stirring in the troubled areas of our great cities should be regarded as an opportunity for this Nation. We can reach out our hand in partnership. We have learned that the helping hand of the dole is not the answer. This bill would make it possible for people to help themselves to make their own way in the world. We in New York City will await its early passage, determined to demonstrate what it can mean to the great cities of the North.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lindsay, I certainly want to thank you on behalf of the subcommittee for an excellent and informative statement.

Mr. Mayor, I am going to ask you the same question that I asked Mayor Cavanagh. Some people seem to have a fear that the Federal coordinator which the bill would set up for each demonstration city program would be some sort of a Federal dictator—there are two or