

Well, I heartily agree that it is going to be necessary in order to break up ghettos, for example, that we extend beyond the affected section or neighborhood.

But I had thought that the bill as drafted by the administration did permit and encourage that.

Are you sure that there is any such exclusion?

Mr. KEITH. I made that comment, Congressman, for the reason that it was not clear to us that this would actually be the case. I think that the bill could be read as implying that an area covered by these demonstration city programs would have to be a contiguous area.

On the other hand, the bill states as part of its objectives, which we strongly support, that the program should result in an increase in the supply of satisfactory housing available for moderate- and low-income families.

It is simply our point and our feeling that in order to accomplish that objective in most cases there is going to have to be new residential development, either on vacant land or on sparsely developed land that would not involve any major displacement in order to reach this objective, both from a relocation standpoint and from a long-term use standpoint of an increase in the housing supply.

Mr. REUSS. If our reading of the bill, when we get to the marking-up stage, discloses that in fact there is nothing in the administration's draft which requires that the new housing be constructed in the section or neighborhood subject to the demonstration cities grant—it is my belief that it does not so require—as far as you are concerned a statement in the committee report that this is our understanding of it would be just as good as language in the bill itself?

Mr. KEITH. Yes, I would certainly say so.

Mr. REUSS. My third and last question has to do with the urban coordinators set up by the demonstration cities bill.

It was a feeling of some of us that the urban coordinator is a good idea, in fact such a good idea that it should not be restricted to that limited number of cities which qualifies for demonstration city grants, and that efforts should be made now to see that every metropolitan area has a Robin Goodfellow from the Federal Government in there, knowledgeable on housing and urban renewal and open space and rehabilitation, to assist local people in finding their way through the wonderland of Federal bureaucracy.

Would you agree that if the idea of a Federal urban coordinator is good for demonstration cities, it's also good for major metropolitan areas which may not wish to or may not in fact qualify for demonstration city programs?

Mr. KEITH. Well, I can certainly see a useful role for such a position in any area that is carrying on major programs of an urban nature. There is no question—as I believe I indicated previously—that one of the frustrating elements encountered by cities in dealing with Federal Departments is the time-consuming process of first finding out where to go, and second getting decisions at some distance away.