

reaching Federal package yet advanced for the creative rebuilding of our cities. This package represents a logical evolution to a new and more advanced, a more refined stage in Federal policy in urban problems.

It opens unparalleled opportunity for cities to marshal in a more orderly and effective way than ever before the vast array of resources, both public and private, to the task of creating a livable and stable urban society. It offers a means for bringing these resources to bear with more telling impact and greater clarity of purpose.

I mentioned I am speaking on behalf of the two leagues of municipalities. But I might emphasize here, in endorsing this legislation, I am speaking, too, from my own personal experience as a mayor who has grown from, so to speak, from the grassroots, the ground up, in the evolutions of this whole urban picture, particularly, of course, from the small city standpoint.

The objectives of the programs represented by these bills deserve the wholehearted support of all of our mayors of our smaller cities. It is the smaller cities which have the most to gain from the program and, conversely, a great deal to contribute in return to the Nation's economic and social vitality.

My testimony will include an effort to clarify the position of the smaller cities in relation to the metropolitan ones in the overall urban scene.

Smaller cities share the concern, as expressed by Mayor Cavanagh, that the program, if it is to become a reality to all, be comprehensive enough, bold enough, and adequately enough financed to do the job expected of it. The observations on this score presented in previous testimony are of prime importance. We concur in the specific observations presented by witnesses representing our municipal organizations and we desire to underscore them here. Nothing could discredit and destroy these proposed remedies for the urban problem more quickly and completely than inability to carry them out with dispatch and efficiency, with comprehensiveness in scope and with adequate funding from the Federal level of government. On this point, it might be observed that the proposed legislation establishes as a criterion for demonstration city project eligibility that the locality provide firm assurance of the availability of local matching funds adequate to see the job through properly. It is to be hoped that the same criterion will be applied with equal realism to the provision of Federal-level funds.

We also wish to express our concurrence with previous testimony that ample financial assistance be available to all cities to cover both the preliminary planning phase of demonstration projects and the ongoing planning which must accompany project execution.

I think you will find me emphasizing the planning underpinning of this thing quite extensively.

This is fundamental to the entire concept, the very essence of which is comprehensiveness, and a high degree of overall coordination.

Comprehensiveness in attack on the total problem has not always been a notable characteristic of metropolitan programs in the past, often to the detriment of many of these programs. The proposed legislation offers an opportunity to correct this deficiency and to establish trends and precedents in the direction of adequate metropolitan and regional planning, recognizing this as the soundest possible underpinning one can give to any community development undertaking.