

than demolish, and to grow according to comprehensive plans, thereby creating cities of lasting beauty and sound community environments. Unfortunately, we didn't start that way, we have made mistakes, and western cities need help to readjust and get on with the job of sound planning. By acting now, they can achieve more, and at less public cost.

In Denver we recognize that we must have Federal assistance and cooperation. We also recognize that, to obtain it, we must meet our responsibilities to the full. Denver has an outstanding planning commission, urban renewal authority, and community development agency. It has an active housing authority and one of the first commissions on community relations to be formed in the Nation. We have an excellent workable program with all of the essential city services that such a program requires, and we were one of the first cities in the country to complete and have approved a community redevelopment plan, which we are keeping constantly current. To the best of our ability and to the full capacity of our resources, we are working toward the elimination of blight, to stop its further spread, and to provide the countless services required of a core city in a metropolitan area that now has a population of more than 1 million people.

Our citizens believe in the future of their city and have attested to that faith time and time again by going to the polls and approving multimillion-dollar bond issues for a myriad of purposes. Denver is located in a semiarid area, so its citizens have approved a \$115-million-bond debt to bore diversion tunnels through the mighty Rocky Mountains and bring lifegiving water from one side of the Continental Divide to the other. Denver has been discovered by people in all areas of our Nation and they have moved here with their families by the thousands. Denver citizens have responded by approving a school bond debt of \$40 million to build new schools for the children of these families. Increased population caused a sewage problem. Denver citizens, banding together with those in surrounding counties, approved a \$30-million debt to construct a vast new metropolitan sewage disposal facility. Denver needed a new general hospital, a convention center, additions to our juvenile detention facility and several other major structures. Our citizens responded by approving a \$25-million-bond issue—the largest ever approved for city purposes. Time and again our citizens have demonstrated their confidence in the air age and Denver's place in it by approving multimillion-dollar-bond issues for new construction and improvements at our Stapleton International Airport.

So we are willing to pledge our own resources to resolve problems. But to achieve the kind of a total job that must be accomplished in our community, we need the kind of assistance President Johnson visualizes and recommends in the Demonstration Cities Act.

I concur wholeheartedly in the President's objectives, and in his concept of the Demonstration Cities Act. I would be remiss if I failed to express my concern as to the adequacy of the recommended funds both for planning and execution. I agree with Mayor Cavanagh's analysis when he appeared for the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I feel that this is a great beginning, but that certainly the program should be funded from the very start by the \$2.3 billion. I also question, as did Mayor Cavanagh, the de-