

[Telegram]

DENVER, COLO., March 15, 1966.

Representative WILLIAM A. BARRETT,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Housing,
Committee on Banking and Currency,
Washington, D.C.:

We eight members of the nine-man Denver Board of Councilmen strongly endorse the skyline urban renewal project planned for Denver and support emphatically the position of Mayor Thomas Currigan on this matter. We, therefore, urge your committee to consider favorably the financing of this project. In supporting this project we reject and repudiate the tactics and statements of Denver Councilman Houston Gibson to which you were subjected yesterday, March 14. It is our conviction that the people of Denver welcome this great step forward in the development of blight-ridden areas of downtown Denver.

Elvin Caldwell, council president; Councilman Carl DeTemple; Councilman Leo Gemma; Councilman Paul Hentzel; Councilman Irving Hook; Councilman Robert Keating; Councilman Kenneth McIntosh; Councilman John Yelenick.

Mr. BARRETT. Mayor Bachrach, we are certainly pleased to have you, from the great State of Ohio, representing Cincinnati. We want you to feel at home here this morning.

I observe that you have an associate with you. If you would be kind enough to introduce him for the record in case one of the members may ask him a question.

STATEMENT OF HON. WALTON BACHRACH, MAYOR OF CINCINNATI, OHIO; ACCOMPANIED BY WILLIS P. GRADISON, JR., COUNCILMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF CITY COUNCIL; JOHN U. ALLEN, DIRECTOR OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AND RICHARD G. COLEMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE BETTER HOUSING LEAGUE

Mr. BACHRACH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I am happy to be here and appreciate the opportunity to bring my Cincinnatians with me. I don't know what your procedure is, but Mr. Gilligan was going to present our delegation.

Mr. BARRETT. I was coming to that.

Mr. BACHRACH. All right, sir, fine.

I would like at this time to present to you, Mr. Chairman, and your committee, the chairman of our urban renewal committee of our city council—our city council made up of nine members. We have each one of us the chairmanship of a particular committee. The gentleman that I have with me here is Mr. Willis P. Gradison, Jr., who has been in the council a number of years, has been chairman of our urban renewal committee, has worked weeks, days, nights, months, and years on this particular problem. And I believe that he is very able to present Cincinnati's case here this morning, sir.

This is Mr. Gradison on my left, sir.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

I am going now to ask the gentleman from Ohio, our very esteemed and greatly admired friend, Congressman Gilligan. He has proved I am quite sure, to be one of the most able first-term Members that we have had in this Congress—and I have been in it for a few years.