

further believe that this program, if enacted, cannot stop with the initial demonstration cities. Every city faced with problems such as ours should be encouraged to develop an imaginative, comprehensive program of remedial action. All those cities demonstrating the need and the ability to participate should be permitted to do so.

We feel that Waterbury is the type of city that could most benefit from a demonstration program and that could produce the most dramatic demonstration of community improvement. Our ambitions for Waterbury, however, can only be realized by dedicated effort on both the local and Federal level. We feel we have come a long way already. In a few short years, a climate of progress and change has developed in Waterbury. This new climate is ideal for the vast new programs contemplated in the demonstration cities program. Three important aspects of community attitude and change are particularly representative of this new climate.

*Urban renewal referendum.*—On June 25, 1963, the people of Waterbury made known their faith in the city's urban renewal program. By an overwhelming margin they voted "yes" to the question "Are you in favor of urban renewal?" This expression of support was the result of an outstanding effort by local citizens to make known the benefits of urban renewal to the general public. This type of broad support is vital for the comprehensive program Waterbury wishes to accomplish.

*Highway construction.*—Long removed from the main corridor of highway travel, Waterbury has fought and won the battle for a location on the State's new major highway network. As a result of a concerted effort by local officials and citizens alike, Waterbury is now at the hub of a highway system which provides direct access from all points of the compass. Route 84 (east-west) and Route 8 (north-south) will enable the city to compete for retail trade and industry with any city in the State. It was the foresight of Waterbury's leaders that convinced them of the need of this advantage. The city is attempting to maximize this advantage through its urban renewal program.

*Regional planning.*—Waterbury is at the center of the central Naugatuck Valley region. The Central Naugatuck Valley Regional Planning Agency is a fully staffed and operating regional planning agency which has been performing a valuable service for the region since its formation 5 years ago. Its most unique achievement is the development of the first regional plan to be adopted in the country. Regional planning is a recognized function of government in Waterbury and has and will continue to play a role in the direction of community and regional growth. All new plans and programs developed by the city are undertaken within the coordinated framework of metropolitan development provided by the regional planning agency.

In order to capitalize on the enthusiasm and support that has been generated for the local programs, prompt and vigorous action is required. Here in Waterbury we have made every attempt to maintain the pace that has been established. Despite a slow start in urban renewal activity, Waterbury has shown remarkable gains in the past several years.

1. Three projects already in execution have been brought close to completion.

2. A community renewal program (CRP) has been initiated to guide the city's total urban renewal effort. Although little more than half completed, the CRP has already demonstrated itself to be an extremely valuable tool and is becoming a recognized component of the city's overall development program. It has already resulted in the following steps.

3. On recommendations developed from the CRP, a new renewal project, Porter Street (R-101), was designated locally and has already received a survey and planning advance. Furthermore, an early land acquisition loan application has already been submitted and is being processed for this project. The entire project is to be devoted to moderate income 221(d)(3) housing and/or State-sponsored housing for the elderly. This new development is also expected to generate new vitality in one of Waterbury's "gray" residential neighborhoods.

4. Based on recommendations by both the CRP policy committee and the Redevelopment Agency, a major downtown project has been delineated and a survey and planning application already submitted. The central business district (CBD) project includes the major retail and governmental center of Waterbury and is intended to attack some of the city's most pressing problems on a scale which has heretofore been lacking. Waterbury's commitment to a massive program of community improvement is typified by this major under-