

Over this period, our city has been in the forefront of the Nation's renewal effort—setting the patterns, developing the programs, devising pilot projects and new approaches, the experience from many of which were ultimately adopted as standard procedures and programs by the Urban Renewal Administration and the Public Housing Administration, for use throughout the entire Nation. I know many of you are familiar with these programs but I should like to cite here just a few of them showing where and how funds from the demonstration cities program might be directly applied:

1. There is the recently formed, city-sponsored Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation, a nonprofit agency funded by \$2 million of capital funds of city money which will take the initiative in acquiring and rehabilitating a substantial number of deteriorating but salvageable homes, places in which people can dwell, throughout the city in a unique partnership of the city, private resources and nonprofit community groups and organizations.

This has spearheaded a commitment of \$20 million in financing from some of the savings banks in Philadelphia.

2. We have this very day before the Public Housing Administration an application under the used house provisions of the 1965 Housing Act for sufficient funds for the rehabilitation or rebuilding of 5,000 vacant and derelict structures and open lots in the North Philadelphia section of our city in 1 year.

3. The newly organized Philadelphia School Board under former Mayor Dilworth, is moving toward adoption of a program which will daringly innovate a dynamic curriculum as well as school construction program, anticipating an expenditure of \$434 million over the next 6 years. As a first step, the city council and voters of Philadelphia are being asked to consider a \$65 million local bond issue which will come before the voters at the primary election in May of this year.

This total education program anticipates great emphasis on cultural and social conditioning of the economically deprived so that they can live a better life.

For the first time in the history of Philadelphia, the school board will become a part of the comprehensive program which will make Philadelphia so much a better place in which to live.

4. We have what I believe to be the strongest code enforcement program of any city in this country, calling for an expenditure of \$7.5 million in the next 3 years to bring to at least minimum code standards 130,000 structures in the conservation areas of our city. There was some fear and concern about whether or not such a strong, strict code enforcement program could be executed without hurting too many people.

We have done so, and no one has been hurt. On the contrary, people have been helped by it because it has lifted up these particular areas to better standards of living.

I say to all Congressmen who are worried about strict code enforcement that it is the best thing that can happen in many areas because it brings the landlord and homeowner up to a proper standard. Strict code enforcement now, I think, is the order of the day, not only in Philadelphia, but in all the cities of America who want to take the bold approach to preserve their housing.