

thoughtful city planning that has produced an impressionistic collage of ill-conceived renewal projects.

The matter of planning is so important to our cities battling the dual challenges of decay and growth that it is the heart of the administration's other major housing bill this session, the Urban Development Act.

I hope that what have been allowed to pass the muster as workable programs under urban renewal legislation will not turn up as demonstration city projects. In many cities and, especially in the city of New York, the requirement of a workable program before the approval of urban renewal funds was a sham. This requirement was never applied with vigor or enforced when the renewal law was obviously flaunted.

Furthermore, we must think in terms of need, not in terms of possible success in establishing the criteria a city must meet in order to become a demonstration city. The demonstration cities program should have its greatest application and, hopefully, impact in meeting needs, not providing points. For that reason I support the amendment offered by Congressmen Ashley, Moorhead, and Reuss requiring that the sections of cities that would qualify for the program be:

Subject to high-priority economic and social pressures, such as population density, crime rate, public welfare participation, delinquency, poverty, unemployment, educational levels, health and disease characteristics and substandard housing.

While I agree that it is desirable to focus this total demonstration attack on cities of varying sizes, as outlined by the Secretary, I believe that in each city the first order of business must be to meeting needs—needs that are measurable as spelled out by the Ashley-Moorhead-Reuss amendment.

Let us not view the demonstration cities program as a textbook solution applied to essentially academic problems. There are clear and present needs in our cities. The crisis on a Harlem is anything but academic. The demonstration cities program could be a valuable weapon in our arsenal, if trained on specific targets and not just employed as a scattershot attempt to perform good works.

There is no section of any American city that is more desperately in need of fresh approaches than Harlem. Harlem will have to be the most important and ambitious demonstration project in this total program, even though many months may go by before a plan can be hammered out and even though the ultimate success of the plan cannot be guaranteed.

In any discussion of steps that can be taken to upgrade our cities, we must at some point touch on the matter of the rent supplement program which was approved last year but for which no funds were voted.

The President has asked for \$30 million for this program and hearings have been held on it by the House Appropriations Committee. I read in the New York Times this morning that funds had been cut by the subcommittee to \$12 million. This is most serious, and if permitted to stand will shatter the hopes of all of us who are concerned with the housing crisis in our big cities.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline for you H.R. 13285, a bill I have introduced that would expand the rent subsidy plan.