

tial—its railroads—its harbor facilities and its unexcelled geographic advantages should be considered as one of the 60 demonstration cities to be chosen when this legislation is enacted.

Rather than intrude upon the time of our distinguished guest, I would like to present to you the very outstanding mayor of the city of Jersey City, a man who was described by the Wall Street Journal this week as the man who is revitalizing Jersey City. I present to you the mayor of Jersey City, the Honorable Thomas J. Whelan.

Mr. BARRETT. That is quite a commendation and, certainly, I am sure you warrant it in every respect.

If you desire to state your testimony in full, we will be glad to go along with you in that respect.

**STATEMENT OF HON. THOMAS J. WHELAN, MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY, N.J.; ACCOMPANIED BY SIDNEY WILLIS, CITY PLANNER**

Mr. WHELAN. Thank you very much, Congressman Barrett. I am indeed grateful to you and the other distinguished members of this committee who granted me the time to come here to present our views, and I am extremely grateful to my good friend, Congressman Minish, and Congressman Dwyer, for his and her comments and, of course, we are extremely grateful also to our very warm and personal friend and great Congressman, Dominick Daniels, for his kind remarks.

Gentlemen, my name is Thomas J. Whelan, and I am the mayor of Jersey City, N.J., a community of 276,000 citizens located upon upper New York Harbor in the heart of the New York metropolitan region.

Jersey City is the second largest municipality in the State of New Jersey. More important, perhaps, is that our densely populated community is more than 300 years old. We have more than our share of the problems which result from 300 years of unplanned growth and uncoordinated industrial and residential development.

It is only natural, therefore, that I join with the mayors of our Nation's older cities in urging your approval of the Demonstration Cities Act of 1966. But I would like to take a few minutes of your time to offer several brief suggestions concerning the program you are now considering.

First, we of Jersey City support the concept of limiting the number of cities to be selected under this program. I hope, of course, that Jersey City is among the 60 cities selected, but in any case we see the wisdom in limiting this program to a relatively small number of municipalities.

But we feel that some strictly objective criteria should be applied to determining which cities are selected. This important program, with all its far-reaching potential, should not evolve into some kind of Federal lottery with 60 lucky cities holding the winning tickets.

Among these determining criteria, we feel, should be the size of a city and its role within its metropolitan area, the extent of its economic and social deterioration, its present and future economic potential, the character of its population in terms of race, age, and economic status, the extent of hard-core poverty within the city, and many other factors.

And possibly the most important of these criteria, we suggest, should be a hard-headed appraisal of the ability of each city to actually