

Only in this way, with each coordinator wielding a broad scope of powers, can we see an effective and well-functioning program resulting.

Finally, we feel that a prime factor in the selection of the demonstration cities should be the effect that the chosen cities can have in sharing the benefits of their experience under this program with other communities around them.

This program has to be more than just a handout for 60 lucky municipalities. It has to benefit as wide an area and as broad a range of urban situations as possible.

Almost any city, of course, could apply this new program for their individual benefit, but many of these cities are surrounded by well-to-do suburbs which do not face the plight of America's aging urban centers. Other cities, in contrast, are at the hub of poverty and deterioration in the form of smaller municipalities which have neither the resources nor the potential for overcoming their problems.

Jersey City, for instance, is surrounded by 11 smaller Hudson County communities which are struggling with varying degrees of effort and success to meet many of the same urban problems faced by Jersey City itself.

But Jersey City is fortunate to have four colleges within its boundaries, and their enrollment in a demonstration cities program could help spread the results of this effort far outside our own city limits.

We see city officials from not only other Hudson County communities but from municipalities throughout New Jersey participating in week-long on-the-job training courses in which they would see and experience firsthand how to cope with the many problems involved in urban renewal.

We see the Federal coordinator and the local coordinator jointly maintaining a regional urban resources center—a library of pertinent regional data and recent publications available to all nearby municipalities.

We see Jersey City gaining from the experience of its sister municipalities even as they are seeing how community renewal can work in their own cities—and this entire approach to the demonstration cities program simply wouldn't be of real effect in the center city which is surrounded by quiet, well-ordered suburban "country-club" communities. This should be an important factor in the demonstration cities program, we feel.

In conclusion, let me stress my enthusiasm for the potential of this dynamic new approach to solving the problems—indeed, the crisis—of our aging cities. And unlike some who fear this proposed massive Federal involvement in the battle against blight, we of Jersey City know from personal experience that Federal, city, and State authorities can work together to achieve results of lasting benefit for the people.

At this moment, a unique experiment in urban redevelopment is underway in Jersey City, the results of which we know will eventually be hailed by citizens from all parts of our great Nation as a major achievement of enlightened government.

I speak of Liberty State Park on the Jersey City waterfront immediately behind historic Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. Jersey City conceived this 400-acre recreational and cultural facility several