

leagues opposition to these concepts. If I could have some Federal weight to help to sell the new ideas, new concepts to my colleagues, this would benefit my city. Our codes are antiquated. Our ordinances, many of them, are antiquated. But for many reasons in our older cities, and I can speak with certainty for my own city, this must and has to be changed.

In the effort that I made in 2½ years, I have not been completely successful. If the availability of Federal funds were based on the community accepting modern ideas and concepts it might be easier for me to overcome the opposition.

Mr. FINO. Of course, Mayor Whelan, your position here is a little different than the position expressed by other mayors who have appeared before this committee, and one, in particular, Mayor Addonizio of Newark.

Mr. WHELAN. A very good friend of mine.

Mr. FINO. And a former member of this subcommittee and a good friend of mine, also.

He expressed some fear about a czar coming in and doing all of that. He cites, like Mayor Lindsay and other mayors that have testified, that he would like to have a voice in the selection of the coordinator and they would not like to leave the selection in the hands of the Federal Government, and have the Federal Government throw down your throats or force down your throats someone from Washington that does not know Jersey City from a hole in the wall and starts revising your whole city without your consent or knowledge. What areas of assistance do you think the Federal coordinator would control and hopefully expedite?

Mr. WHELAN. In detail, not being a professional in the field of municipal planning, I couldn't say. My concept would be that the coordinator would be doing just that, he would coordinate all of the many avenues that now exist for Federal help to our cities. We all know that our cities cannot deal with these problems without massive Federal aid. But our efforts, many times, have been frustrating in that we must go in many directions. If the coordinator had the power and the willingness and the ability to coordinate these avenues, it would be much easier for our staff to work with one man instead of going in nine directions, if that makes sense.

Mr. WILLIS, being a professional, could perhaps give a more lucid or technical explanation or answer to that question.

Mr. FINO. All right.

Mr. WILLIS. If I may, we are fully aware that Mayor Whelan's position on this is probably contrary to the statements of many of the mayors who may have appeared before you. But we have had a very good relationship with the regional administrator in Philadelphia, of the Urban Renewal, Housing and Home Finance Agency, and now with HUD. We have found with his assistance and through the techniques of the work of the program, as bureaucratic as they may have seemed to have been, we found these techniques have helped the mayor in sponsoring and promoting and pushing the programs that he wants to be adopted and promoted in Jersey City. We don't fear a Federal coordinator. I would suggest that the coordinator should be in a position to make field decisions and speak for the regional