

deteriorating neighborhoods decent places in which to live, this process will take decades of time and the uphill struggle we are now fighting can only be lost. But be assured that, in anticipation of favorable congressional action on this vital program, Bethlehem within a very short time will have on the desk of Secretary Weaver a proposal to demonstrate what Bethlehem is convinced it can do to combat urban decay within its limits.

We believe that there is a bright future for South Bethlehem and that the area must not be allowed to continue in the increasing spiral of decay. We have envisioned for South Bethlehem a plan nothing short of total rejuvenation incorporating all of the talents, experience, and resources that can be brought to bear. We firmly believe that the future of the entire city is wholly dependent on what we can accomplish now under this program.

Over and beyond the effect this will have on our city, we feel that the demonstration program Bethlehem is proposing has unique features incorporated in it, which will serve as new tools and new approaches to be employed in rebuilding other cities.

We of Bethlehem are here today seeking an opportunity to demonstrate the ideas, evolved from years of planning and experience but which have not, and cannot, be implemented without a program such as the proposed legislation before you.

Through the demonstration program Bethlehem will propose, we intend to show that a concerted, comprehensive attack on blighted city neighborhoods will stimulate the national economy and the gross national product by providing the incentive for reinvestment on the part of private enterprise, manyfold the original outlay.

We intend to show, through effective administrative structure and machinery, that a program of this scope can function both smoothly and efficiently and accomplish the full extent of the demonstration cities program without faltering.

We intend to show that contrary to common beliefs expounded today, a desirable residential environment can exist adjacent to and in harmony with a heavy industrial complex.

We intend to show that massive participation by the affected citizenry in all facets of such a comprehensive program, from planning through construction, will result in removal of dissension and citizen protest through common motivation for a project of widespread good.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Mayor, I do not have any questions to ask you but I do want to say this has been a very fine and excellent statement and the committee will certainly give it every consideration.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Widnall?

Mr. WIDNALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. We certainly welcome your statement and I think you made a very good contribution.

I would just like to ask you two questions.

What do you estimate will be the amount that will be needed by Bethlehem for the demonstration cities program?

Mr. PAYROW. Our present program which we have under capital programing is going to run \$48 million and I would say, it probably will run another \$25 million on top—so I would say \$75 million.