

5. Preparation of regulatory and administrative measures and public educational and informational material in support of the foregoing activities.

Grants under the urban planning program may be made to—

1. Cities and other municipalities with less than 50,000 population, counties, and Indian reservations. Generally such grants are made through the official State planning agency.

2. State, metropolitan, and regional planning agencies, and metropolitan organizations of public officials.

Grants under the program may amount to no more than two-thirds of the total cost of the urban planning project. However, for localities designated under the Economic Development Act of 1965, or in areas in which there has occurred a substantial reduction in employment as a result of a decline in Government employment or purchases, grants may amount to as much as three-fourths of project costs.

### 3. History

The urban planning assistance program was authorized in section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954 with an initial authorization of \$5 million. The program was substantially amended in 1959, 1961, 1964, and 1965.

The program is now in its 11th year and extends to communities in all 50 States plus Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Between the passage of the original enabling legislation and the Housing Act of 1961, annual commitments averaged about \$3 million per year. The 1961 act considerably broadened the scope of the program in two major respects: grant ratios were increased from the 50-percent level to the 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ -percent level, and comprehensive transportation studies were specifically authorized as an eligible activity. Program levels rose sharply to about \$18 million in each of the years 1962 and 1963, and to over \$21 million in 1964. The level of the program in 1965 dropped to the amount of the available appropriation. At the end of fiscal 1965 the total amount of the Federal grants which had been allocated was \$86 million. The following table provides a fiscal summary of the program.

TABLE 1.—*Summary of program*

[In thousands of dollars]

| Fiscal year | Appropriations |            | Net approvals |            | Appropriation balance carried forward |
|-------------|----------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
|             | In year        | Cumulative | In year       | Cumulative |                                       |
| 1955        | 1,000          | 1,000      | 103           | 103        | 897                                   |
| 1956        | 2,000          | 3,000      | 878           | 981        | 2,019                                 |
| 1957        | 1,500          | 4,500      | 1,766         | 2,747      | 1,753                                 |
| 1958        | 1,275          | 5,775      | 3,024         | 5,771      | 4                                     |
| 1959        | 3,250          | 9,025      | 2,961         | 8,732      | 293                                   |
| 1960        | 3,375          | 12,400     | 3,504         | 12,236     | 164                                   |
| 1961        | 4,000          | 16,400     | 2,961         | 15,197     | 1,203                                 |
| 1962        | 17,100         | 33,500     | 18,179        | 33,376     | 124                                   |
| 1963        | 18,000         | 51,500     | 17,900        | 51,276     | 224                                   |
| 1964        | 21,150         | 72,650     | 21,244        | 72,520     | 130                                   |
| 1965        | 13,675         | 86,325     | 13,705        | 86,225     | 100                                   |

### 4. Level of operations. (See table 2.)

Program: Urban planning assistance.

Department or agency, and office or bureau: Department of Housing and Urban Development; Office of Planning Standards and Coordination [formerly in Urban Renewal Administration].