

problems. See also separate discussion of loans and grants available to assist property rehabilitation.

In recent years a number of new mechanisms have been developed to make possible the construction of new housing for families of low and moderate incomes and an increasing proportion of the housing constructed in urban renewal project areas is for such families. The projects not only provide desirable sites supported by adequate public facilities, but they also provide lower land prices which help make the construction of such housing feasible.

3. History

The original enabling legislation was enacted in 1949 and the program was then known as slum clearance and urban redevelopment. In 1954, the name of the program was changed to urban renewal in recognition of its broader scope. The 1954 legislation introduced the workable program requirement as a prerequisite to undertaking urban renewal projects, emphasized the role to be played by rehabilitation, and added various forms of FHA mortgage insurance to aid in the redevelopment and rehabilitation of urban renewal areas. The Housing Act of 1956 first provided for relocation grants to displaced individuals, families, and business concerns. The Housing Act of 1959 introduced the community renewal program. The Housing Act of 1961 doubled the preceding authorization for the program and provided several other liberalizing amendments. The 1964 Housing Act expanded relocation assistance, authorized assistance for code enforcement, and provided for the system of direct Federal loans for rehabilitation. The Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 provided Federal grants for rehabilitation, the new program for the demolition of unsound structures, and a number of other significant technical amendments.

TABLE 1.—*Brief summary of program growth*

[Dollar amounts in thousands]

Fiscal year	Number of localities	Number of projects	Grant reservations
1965.....	770	1,592	\$4,502,987
1964.....	743	1,466	3,935,765
1963.....	679	1,310	3,300,892
1962.....	546	1,013	2,546,681
1961.....	470	813	1,868,948
1960.....	455	797	1,638,713
1959.....	385	647	1,311,488
1958.....	331	554	1,193,553
1957.....	264	435	894,106
1956.....	232	377	657,078

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

Program: Urban renewal projects.

Department or agency, and office or bureau: Department of Housing and Urban Development; Renewal Projects Administration [formerly Urban Renewal Administration].