

with the other modes of transportation whose development is assisted by the Department—and we are convinced that the lack of a systems approach is an important factor in the transportation problems of many of our cities. It also simplifies channels for State and local agencies working with the Federal Government on transportation projects.

The second step is to clarify and strengthen the role of the Department of Housing and Urban Development as the principal Federal agency concerned with sound, comprehensively planned development of our urban areas. This is the purpose of the reservation in HUD of authority under the Urban Mass Transportation Act to undertake research and make grants on those problems involved in the relationship of transportation system planning to comprehensive urban planning. It is also the purpose of the reservations of authority under sections 3, 4, and 5 which will allow HUD to participate actively in establishing criteria for relating transportation system planning to comprehensive urban planning, and to advise the Department of Transportation as to the adequacy of local planning programs.

The third step is to establish formal procedures for a closer working relationship between the two Departments in all cases in which transportation planning and project implementation will have a significant impact on urban development. From such a working relationship at the Federal level, we can secure better coordination among agencies at the State and local level. This is essential because it is those agencies who bear the ultimate responsibility for planning and carrying out the development programs.

Thus, we believe that the reorganization plan, together with the agreements to be worked out by the two Departments, will for the first time tie the Federal transportation programs together, provide the mechanism for relating national transportation objectives to urban development objectives, and permit a unified Federal approach to help in achieving orderly urban growth through the development of effective transportation systems.

I am convinced that the plan before you represents a step we must take if we are to cope with the problems at hand.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you very much, Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Wood, will you proceed?

STATEMENT OF HON. ROBERT C. WOOD, UNDER SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Wood. Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you in support of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968.

The plan will transfer from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Transportation various functions under the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, together with certain incidental authorities under other laws. In part, the functions to be transferred are those of assisting in the provision of mass transportation facilities and equipment needed for coordinated urban transit. In addition, the plan will transfer to the Department of Transportation a function of assisting, through research and demonstration programs, in development of transportation facilities and systems for the future.