

Mr. ERLNBORN. If I understand correctly, authority over the National Capital Housing Authority has been given to you by Executive order.

Commissioner WASHINGTON. Yes, sir.

Mr. ERLNBORN. Do you think that that Executive order and this plan go far enough or would it be desirable to merge the Housing Authority and the Redevelopment Land Agency?

Commissioner WASHINGTON. I think that my opinion here would be that those two functions, with respect to the current programs and tools that are available, would best serve for the present as separate entities. I think the matter of joint funding and program activity at this structure would not necessarily be wise, with the many other things that we have to do.

In other words, I would like to see the program strengthened and get as much capability out of the respective agencies now as possible with a view of putting some of the activities, like planning together, and perhaps the development work together at this juncture without putting the bulk of the program together. I think this is something that we could get to in another year or so, but I believe the development of capability, of the full capability of the programs at this time could best be achieved by keeping them as they are.

Mr. ERLNBORN. You would not rule out sometime in the near future merger of these, too?

Commissioner WASHINGTON. Absolutely not. Those, I would not.

Mr. ERLNBORN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Brown.

Mr. BROWN. I am curious to know how many of the proposals which have been made in recent months for the total reorganization of the various agencies involved with land use and planning and urban renewal and zoning and all of that were taken into account by the Bureau of the Budget when they came up with this reorganization plan?

Mr. HUGHES. As far as I know, Mr. Brown, the two relevant ones were the Housing Authority action by Executive order and this one. The Recreation Plan, the other plan this year that affects the District does not involve land per se. I do not know whether you had that in mind or not.

Mr. BROWN. Well, for instance, there is a report of the Federal City Council on Urban Renewal Programs for the District prepared in March of 1961. There is the Mayor's Work Report for a Better City in January of this year. There is another report prepared by the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies on the National Capital Planning Commission. Were any of these given consideration with reference to including in a single reorganization plan all of the various agencies that are involved in land use and zoning, redevelopment, and so forth?

Mr. HUGHES. Yes. I am sorry. I did not fully understand the question. Yes, Mr. Brown, we gave a good deal of thought to a broader action here with respect to land use, land planning, housing, urban renewal, and so on. I think the most notable absentee from the package is the National Capital Planning Commission.

Mr. BROWN. Fine Arts Commission?

Mr. HUGHES. Fine Arts Commission, also. Both of them are involved. Each of them present some special problems that we struggled