

(2) For example, would it help to require that a continuous relocation assistance service be established as a part of the official plan of action of the community, as part of its Workable Program, to have responsibility for aiding persons displaced by any project financed, in whole or in part, by public funds?

The Workable Program, which is a prerequisite for such HUD programs as urban renewal and public housing, now requires that communities have an adequate program for the relocation of families displaced by governmental action of all types. Our program guides stress the desirability of establishing a city-wide relocation agency with full responsibility for planning and implementing the relocation program in the community, particularly where a large volume of displacement by various projects and activities is involved. The extension of relocation payments and assistance to other Federal programs contemplated under S. 698, would substantially increase the capability of communities to establish such city-wide relocation assistance programs on a continuing basis.

Although we recognize the benefits which many communities would derive from the establishment of a continuous relocation assistance service, we do not believe that this should be made a mandatory requirement for all communities. In many communities the scope of governmental displacements would not warrant service on a continuous basis. Moreover, we do not think that the Workable Program is the appropriate vehicle for implementing such a requirement, since it is only a prerequisite for certain HUD-assisted programs and is not required in the case of other federally assisted programs. If it is desired to require services on a continuous basis, we believe this could be handled more appropriately in connection with the rules and regulations which are to be issued by the President.

(3) Could not such a relocation service be the means of concentrating available social services on the needs of the families and individuals of the area who face dislocation as a result of an impending public project?

Such a relocation service would facilitate the concentration of available social services on the needs of displaced families and individuals. It should be noted, in this connection, that policies developed under the urban renewal program require that those displaced be referred to appropriate public and private voluntary agencies equipped to provide services and counseling on matters of health, employment, training, and similar problems. In addition, local public agencies are encouraged to make site office space available to these agencies, to assist in coordinating the services, and to make the services and counseling conveniently available to the persons affected. Our Workable Program guides encourage communities to establish referral services as an integral part of their relocation assistance programs.

## II. TEMPORARY RELOCATION HOUSING

It is provided in Sec. 105(c) of the Housing Act of 1949 that to obtain Federal assistance for urban renewal, a local public agency must agree to provide "a feasible method for the temporary relocation of families and individuals displaced from the property acquired."

### Questions

(1) What has been your Department's experience with this provision?

Since enactment of the Housing Act of 1949, local public agencies have been required to provide a program for the *permanent* relocation of families and individuals displaced from the property acquired. It has been the policy of the Department to discourage the use of temporary relocation housing except for the following circumstances: to assure that families and individuals are not required to remain in structures which inadequately protect health and safety; to permit project activities to proceed before permanent relocation housing is available; and to provide housing on a temporary basis while permanent relocation housing is being constructed in a project area.

(2) To what extent do local public agencies provide temporary housing?

See our response to question #1 above.

(3) What kinds of housing are made use of for this purpose?

Most temporary relocation housing has consisted of units in the urban renewal project areas which have been vacated. Available vacant units may be occupied on a temporary basis until demolition or rehabilitation is undertaken. In such case local public agencies are required to maintain plumbing, heating, and electrical systems in safe operating condition, and to make such repairs as are needed to make the units habitable during the period of