

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MAR 19 1969

TO : ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS
ATTN : Assistant Regional Administrators for Model Cities

DATE:**In reply refer to:**

FROM : Walter G. Farr, Jr., Director
 Model Cities Administration

SUBJECT: Letter to Mayors on Personal Attention to Local Program Problems

Following for your information is the text of a letter now being sent from Assistant Secretary Hyde to each model city chief executive officer. The attachment is also enclosed with each letter.

As you know, there are now 150 cities involved in the Model Cities program. Some of these cities have already submitted their execution plans; others are preparing to begin their planning effort.

At the Washington and the Regional level, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is now better able to make an assessment of those areas in program planning and administration in need of attention. In most cases, only the chief executive officer of the locality has the power and authority necessary to ensure implementation of the program's requirements. In many cases, the personal involvement of the chief executive officer is necessary to achieve the desired levels of comprehensiveness and coordination -- at a minimum, his full support of the efforts of the CDA Director to accomplish this goal is indispensable.

From time to time, therefore, I will be writing to you to call to your attention those problems we see from our vantage point which, in our best judgment, require your personal attention and political leadership. It is the fundamental purpose of the Model Cities program to strengthen the capability of local government to meet the needs of its citizens, and I want to assure you of my personal commitment to that objective.

In the enclosure with this letter several matters are covered which we feel might well claim your immediate attention.

In the not too distant future, I hope to be able to talk with most, if not all, city and county executives whose localities are in the program. I believe that our working together will insure the success of our efforts, and I would welcome your personal response to the enclosed suggestions.

Attachment

cc: Regional Interagency Teams
Model Cities Governors
CDA Directors (also received direct
copy of mayor's letter)
Washington Interagency Team
MCA Professional Staff

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