

# THE RENEWER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FOR URBAN RENEWAL

Vol. VII, No. 10

Atlanta, Georgia

December 1969

NO DECEMBER MEETING OF CACUR. It was the concensus of opinion of members of the Executive Committee that due to impending change of administration in the City and the holiday season that no CACUR meeting be held in December 1969. Executive Committee members were notified of this on December 16, 1969.

NEXT MEETING OF CACUR will be a full membership meeting on FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1970, at 2:00 P. M., in Committee Room No. 2, Second Floor, City Hall, 68 Mitchell Street, S. W. This will serve as the official and only notice of that meeting. Let's start the new year off with a good attendance. We hope that all members will attend. Any member of the Executive Committee who cannot attend this meeting is requested to have a representative.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meeting for November was held November 21, 1969, in the Directors Room, New Trust Company of Georgia Building. All Executive Committee members attended or had representatives at the meeting. Minutes of the meeting were distributed to all members of the Executive Committee.

MAYOR ELECT, Sam Massell, and Vice-Mayor Elect, Maynard Jackson, were personally invited by the Chairman to the November meeting of the Executive Committee, but were unable to attend.

URBAN RENEWAL AND NDP (Neighborhood Development Program) and their dependance on the Workable Program were explained briefly by the Executive Director for the benefit of new representatives.

NEW HUD POLICY on NDP Projects was explained by Mr. John Matthews of the City's Planning Department. He explained that the 1970 projected Federal Budget for Region III NDP activities had been announced as only \$24,000,000 and that Miami-Dade is scheduled to get about half of that, leaving only \$12,000,000 for the remaining five cities in Region III's Neighborhood Development Program, thus requiring drastic reduction in Atlanta's proposed 1970 NDP.

NO NEW NDP areas was also explained by Mr. Matthews, as part of the new HUD policy announced by Region III in November. Copy of HUD letter is attached (Encl. 1). This means elimination of Plunkettown and Lightning as NDP areas during 1970.

AN INTERIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM was explained by Mr. Matthews as a new program of HUD which permits Federal assistance in several broad types of activities designed as a "holding action" until an area can be reached by NDP treatment and that the Planning Department was encouraged by Region III HUD officials to develop such a program in Plunkettown; that the Planning Department has developed such a program for Plunkettown for next year and that a similar program for Lightning is being phased about four months behind Plunkettown.

FEDERAL GRANT approval of \$22,000 for Plunkettown under the Interim Assistance Program was announced by HUD December 19.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY has been requested by the City to administer implementation of the Interim Assistance Program for Plunkettown.

ATLANTA'S OVERALL NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM for 1970 was discussed at the November 21 meeting by Mr. Howard Openshaw. Mr. Openshaw stated that Atlanta is scheduled to receive only about \$7,500,000 for NDP during 1970; that Atlanta had asked for \$20.7 million.

Mr. Openshaw stated that there are 26 scattered sites in Bedford-Pine which the City is to acquire in 1970 and 50 properties to rehabilitate in 1970. He also stated that Georgia Tech II area has to be cleared for extension of Georgia Tech during 1970. There are 15 vacant parcels to be bought in the Model Cities area, but that in only 4 out of the 6 areas could the City currently buy the vacant land. (This is because of protest by the Model Cities Housing Committee.) The completion of Ralph McGill Elementary School and the Martin Luther King Middle School are included in the Model Cities program for 1970. He continued that acquisition in the Georgia State area has to be cut back to only three properties of the eight originally requested and that one of these is in connection with construction of a viaduct by the City; that Vine City cannot acquire nearly all the properties desired by its PAC Committee; very little activity in Edgewood; and that only an Interim Assistance Program would be undertaken in Plunkettown and Lightning.

A RESOLUTION proposed by Vice-Chairman Padgett pertaining to the NDP cutback and its disturbing effect on Atlanta was adopted unanimously by the Executive Committee at the November 21 meeting. Copy is attached (Encl. 2).

PROPOSED BUDGET for 1970 was adopted by the Executive Committee at the November 21 meeting.

REORGANIZATION OF HUD is currently under way. HUD officials were invited to explain the principal features at the November 21 meeting, but declined in view of the details still being worked on. However, they offered to appear and make presentation later. We expect to invite them to our January 1970 meeting.

HUD IMPRESSION OF CACUR has been expressed very favorably to your Executive Director by a HUD Official. He stated that HUD is well pleased with the Citizens Advisory Committee for Urban Renewal in its participation in Urban Renewal and NDP; that its activities and recommendations have favorably influenced major decisions in Atlanta's participation in HUD assisted programs. He suggested that the Citizens Advisory Committee for Urban Renewal have a name change, in order to get away from the out dated limited Urban Renewal concept and so that the Committee could broaden its scope to include the entire spectrum of Community Improvement and suggested that consideration be given to changing the name to "Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Improvement" or perhaps simply "Citizens Advisory Committee". Chairman Langdale appointed Executive Committee member, W. L. Calloway, as Chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee (additional members to be added) to consider and report upon a name change for CACUR.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION has been stressed by a local HUD official as an over riding policy in its Federal assisted programs; that HUD insists that machinery be set up so that minority group views can be heard and are considered, but that such views are not to be considered or used as a veto.

PROPOSED PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEM for Model Cities was briefly presented at the November 21 meeting by Father Walter Denero, a graduate of the University of Georgia, who has spent several months working in the Model Cities area.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THANKS to CACUR have been received from the family of late CACUR member, Marcus Martin, for Resolution of condolence and sympathy adopted by CACUR at its October meeting.

ATLANTA NOT SELECTED AS PROTOTYPE HOUSING SITE under "Operation Breakthrough". HUD notified Mayor Allen December 15 that Atlanta was not chosen as one of the eight prototype housing sites selected by HUD from 218 proposals in 141 localities in 37 States. On December 16 HUD announced that Macon and Memphis had been selected in the Southeastern region. Other cities selected were Sacramento, California; Indianapolis, Indiana; New Castle, Delaware; St. Louis, Missouri; Jersey City, New Jersey; and Kalamazoo, Michigan.

PUBLIC HEARING ON WEST END URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT was conducted by the Planning and Development Committee December 19, 1969, on Amendment No. 3 to the Urban Renewal Plan and Loan and Grant Contract.

The amendment increased the allocation of Federal Grant funds by \$1,069,355 (to a total of \$9,837,005) to acquire 28 properties infeasible of rehabilitation and to meet increased costs of site improvements, public facilities and administrative costs. The Board of Aldermen will consider the amendment at its meeting, January 5.

HUD has advised that it has no intention of approving any subsequent increases in capital grants for the West End Project from the amount now approved, except for increases which might arise pursuant to future Federal legislation. This means that any local funds used beyond the budgeted activity period will not constitute a local grant-in-aid. The Housing Authority has already taken steps to complete all remaining activities within the budgeted period.

The former Executive Director, CACUR, W. S. "Bill" Howland was in town December 18-19 and looked fine. His winter address is 5243 S. W. 63rd Court, South Miami, Florida 33155.

The CACUR staff wishes all members of CACUR a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Encls: 1. Copy of HUD letter, dated Nov. 6, 1969  
2. Resolution by Executive Committee, CACUR