



HUD NEWS

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MODEL CITIES CONTRACT TENDERED TO BALTIMORE, MD.

Secretary George Romney of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today announced the tender of a \$10,554,000 Model Cities contract to Baltimore, Md.

Baltimore will also be given support from other programs administered by HUD, by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Department of Labor, and the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Today's action by Secretary Romney will enable Baltimore to begin the first year action phase of its comprehensive five-year Model Cities program. Local and private resources will also be used by the city in its concentrated, coordinated attack on the serious social, physical and economic problems within the Model Cities area.

Secretary Romney, who is Chairman of the President's Cabinet Committee on Voluntary Action, noted the extensive private and public involvement in the Baltimore program.

Civic, business, educational, welfare, and medical groups were involved in the planning process, and will also participate in the first year action phase.

During planning, the Chairman of the Greater Baltimore Committee, a private organization comprised of leading businessmen in the city, served on the Policy Steering Board and helped develop the comprehensive program. There was also strong university involvement, with John Hopkins University playing a major role in helping to develop some of the health components. Morgan State College made one of its faculty members available to serve as Chairman of the Policy Steering Board. Also, physicians and dentists in the model neighborhood provided technical assistance to the task force on health.

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Commenting on the decision to tender a contract, Secretary Romney explained that this was done after a careful review of the Baltimore comprehensive plan. The plan was thoroughly studied and analyzed both by the Regional and Washington Interagency Review Committees representing those Federal Departments and Agencies with urban aid programs.

"During the past several months, Baltimore has done an excellent job in revising its proposals and improving its capability to operate its first year action program," he said.

A total of 150 communities in 45 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are participating in the Model Cities Program. The first applications for planning grants were approved in November 1967.

For further information: William G. Sykes, Director
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NOTE: A summary of the Baltimore Model Cities Program is available upon request to the Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C. 20410

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