

## CERTIFICATION OF MODEL CITY RELEVANCE

A series of interdepartmental and interagency agreements have been initiated as a key segment of the Model Cities effort over the past year. The objective of these agreements has been strengthening both federal and local capabilities to coordinate federally assisted programs that affect Model Neighborhoods. In recognition of the fragmentation often resulting from disconnected projects operating in the same neighborhood, an effort has been made to provide both the chief executive of Model Cities and representatives of the federal Cabinet Secretaries with the authority to review all programs proposed for operation in a Model Neighborhood and comment on those programs' relevance to the comprehensive plan of the Model City.

### Guidelines

Federal local projects affecting Model Neighborhoods fall into two broad categories: (a) projects developed primarily as a part of the Model Neighborhood demonstration, and (b) projects with wider community application.

#### A. Model Neighborhood Projects

This category includes all projects involving funds reserved for Model Neighborhood demonstration and all HEW federal-local projects in which more than 50% of the project's benefit can be attributed to the Model Neighborhood residents.

1. The Regional Director will recommend for approval only those projects that the city has certified to be satisfactorily linked to the city's comprehensive Model City program. These projects may be integral components of the demonstration or other activities relevant to and supportive of the program.

2. Prior to final obligation of HEW funds, project applications that meet the above definition will include such certification, signed by the CDA Director and the HEW Regional Director (~~see-attached-format~~). Staff of the Task Force on Interagency Funding will review these certifications and bring any discrepancies to the attention of the Task Force.
3. Since application and review procedures vary from program to program, it is the direct responsibility of the funding agency to assure timely certification by the CDA and concurrence by the Regional Director. The existing Regional Resources Committee should be the appropriate channel for review by agencies with the Regional Director's staff.
4. Continuation applications and significant project modifications will include CDA certification and Regional Director concurrence.
5. CDA certification is understood in every case to include consultation with the local chief executive, whether mayor or city manager, and is expected to reflect that chief executive's local authority to coordinate federally funded projects in the Model Neighborhoods.
6. Where certification by the CDA has been refused or has not been received within 60 days by the city agency or community organization proposing a project for the Model Neighborhood, that agency or organization

has the formal opportunity to appeal the decision (or the inaction) of the CDA directly to the local chief executive and the Regional Director. Such a formal appeal would be received simultaneously by the local chief executive and the Regional Director. It is the responsibility of the Regional Director to discuss the project with the local chief executive and to reach final decision, in concert with DHEW agency recommendations, on funding the project at issue.

B. City-Wide Projects (on-going and new projects)

The policies and process outlined above and ~~in the attached~~ interdepartmental agreement also will apply to city-wide projects with the following exceptions:

- (a) If the Director of the City Demonstration Agency will not certify that that portion of the proposed project affecting the Model Neighborhood is adequately linked to the comprehensive programs, and
- (b) If the applicant agency and the CDA cannot negotiate a satisfactory resolution, and
- (c) If the Mayor's office fails to negotiate a satisfactory resolution,

The the Regional Director, working with HEW regional agency representatives, should seek to conciliate local differences.

If an impasse still exists at the time that a funding decision must be made, the funding agency must communicate its formal recommendations to the Regional Director. If approval is recommended, the Regional Director must concur to the extent that this action affects the Model Cities Program.

Regional Directors will assure that CDA's are aware of and understand this procedures, and that the Regional Resource Committee is used to disseminate these procedures to all regional agency representatives.

Copy to:

Assistant Secretaries

Agency Heads

Regional Directors

Regional Resources Committee

Urban Coordinating Committee

Task Force on Interagency Funding