



HUD NEWS

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HUD TENDERS MODEL CITIES CONTRACT TO SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Secretary George Romney, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, today announced the tender of a \$5.2 million Model Cities contract to Seattle, Washington.

Seattle has also been given assurances for substantial funds from other programs administered by HUD, and 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 the city to begin its first year action phase under its comprehensive five-year Model Cities program. State, local and private resources will also be used by the city in its concentrated, coordinated attack on the serious social, economic and physical problems within the Model Cities area.

Of the \$5,200,000 in Model Cities supplemental funds, approximately \$1,200,000 will generate \$10,100,000 in capital construction, Secretary Romney said. HUD has approved a neighborhood development program for Seattle as well as a neighborhood facilities project, parks and urban beautification, 100 units of low-rent public housing on scattered sites under the leased housing program, 25 units of rehabilitated housing, and 100 new houses under FHA's new mortgage insurance program.

HEW has stated that, in addition to substantial HEW funds which presently provide health, education and welfare services to the Seattle Model Cities area, HEW has indicated the potential availability of \$2,095,600. HEW will continue its ongoing efforts with Seattle to make these funds available to carry out the plan, to the extent possible under existing program legislation. Included are programs for dropout prevention, for teacher training, the Teacher Corps, maternal and infant care, for the elderly, and for treating the mentally retarded.

A total of \$2,347,000 for a Concentrated Employment Program in Seattle, funded by the Department of Labor, will provide work training, work experience and other manpower services for Model Cities area residents. The Office of Economic Opportunity indicated that it expects to maintain the present \$2.4 million level of annual funding for Community Action Program activity within the Seattle Model Cities area for the coming year.

Secretary Romney, who is the Chairman of the President's Cabinet Committee on Voluntary Action, noted the extensive private involvement in the Seattle program. Besides the contributions of private groups in the planning process, which is expected to grow during the action stages, volunteer help is available from such organizations as the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the American Medical Association, Seattle-King County Labor Council, the King County Bar Association, Boeing, and the Weyerhaeuser Corp. The United Good Neighbor Fund, the Urban League, and other private agencies were represented on the Advisory Council.

"The largest volunteer contribution has been the neighborhood residents themselves," Secretary Romney said.

Commenting on the decision to tender a contract, Secretary Romney explained that this was done after a careful review of the Seattle 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, Seattle has done an excellent job in revising its proposals and improving its capability to operate in the first year action program," he said. "Other comprehensive plan approvals and contract tenders are following a similar process and additional announcements will be made over the next several weeks."

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.

Attached is a summary of Seattle's comprehensive plan which includes descriptions of first year action programs using Model Cities supplemental funds.

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