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CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. President,

Your Task Force on the Cities agreed early in its deliberations that now was no longer the time merely for minor adjustments in current programs.

The nation's urban condition demands far more.

What more it demands is not simply a matter of money. A much higher level of spending and investment - private as well as public - is clearly in order. But we concur in your own expressions, and those of your Cabinet, that money in itself is not an urban panacea.

We have attempted in the attached report to state what else is involved in "working at scale" on the nation's urban problems.

We do not pretend to have all the answers, and we are not as certain as we would like to be about those we do put forward. We are also aware of the constraints governing your own and the nation's response.

Nevertheless, we conclude our work on a note of great urgency. The growing apartheid of our urban populations, segregating by race and income, presents this nation with an ugly fact and an ominous future - and possibly a threat to our security which might well overshadow that of Vietnam.

This threat may not materialize. Yet we think it would be folly to test that possibility by doing no more to dispel it than is explicit in the nature and scale of our current urban efforts.

We submit this report to you with our deepest respect and our very best wishes.

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