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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR
FROM: JIM CANNON *J Cannon*
SUBJECT: Summary of the First Meeting
of the President's Committee
on Urban Development and
Neighborhood Revitalization.

The meeting was convened by the President at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 29, 1976. The following individuals were in attendance:

Secretary Carla Hills (Chairman)
Jerry Thomas, Under Secretary, Department of the Treasury (for Secretary Simon)
Ben Holman, Director, Community Relations Service, Department of Justice (for the Attorney General)
Secretary Earl Butz
Richard Darman, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Department of Commerce (for Secretary Richardson)
Michael Moskow, Under Secretary, Department of Labor (for Secretary Usery)
Marjorie Lynch, Under Secretary, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (for Secretary Mathews)
Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr.
Mitchell P. Kobelinski, Administrator, Small Business Administration
Willard H. Meinecke, Assistant Director, Administration and Finance, ACTION (for Director Balzano)
Samuel Martinez, Director, Community Services Administration
Jim Cannon, Director, Domestic Council
Bill Baroody, Director, White House Office of Public Liaison
Chairman Arthur Burns and Governor Philip Jackson, Jr., Federal Reserve System (by invitation)
Chairman Garth Marston, Federal Home Loan Bank Board (by invitation)

Secretary Hills began the discussion with a statement about the current diffused and diverse number of Federal programs which have an impact on urban areas and their neighborhoods. She called for a restructuring of these programs into a more coherent approach to the problems facing cities. She recommended a review and assessment of current Federal programs followed by consultation with city governments and community leaders to develop recommendations for the President. The President concurred in the recommendation.

Secretary Coleman stated he believes urban revitalization to be a major issue for the next five years and strongly recommends that the Committee be designated the President's Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization. Jim Lynn demurred, saying that while he thought it is essential to conduct a major review of urban policy, he didn't advise that the Committee assume a high profile until it had a better sense of what it was going to do. He recommended the Committee carry the Domestic Council imprimatur in its early stages. Secretary Hills supported Secretary Coleman's arguments and also asked the President to consider the Proxmire-Garn legislative proposal for the establishment of a National Commission on Neighborhoods.

The President decided to designate his Committee on Urban Development and Neighborhood Revitalization a Presidential Committee but indicated the Domestic Council staff should play a key role. He expressed his opposition to support of the Proxmire-Garn legislation. He also indicated that his Committee should not apologize for current programs like revenue sharing and block grants because there have been steps forward, but additional consolidation and coordination was necessary. He directed the Committee to translate current and proposed programs into the number and kinds of jobs they affect.

Other members of the Committee, including Secretary Butz and Sam Martinez, of CSA, expressed their concurrence with its goals. The President directed the Committee to conduct the catalogue of current programs and schedule a meeting with him to report findings within three weeks. He also directed Secretary Hills to announce the Committee in her speech before the Mayors' Conference the following day. A White House announcement and a Presidential Statement were to be issued concurrently.