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## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Johnson, Jeh Naver, Lewis

January 3, 1967

Smith; Alothel It. January 3, 1967 Black, Hugo Jr. Tuesday, 5:00 p. m. Ravitch, Richard

Baker, David L.

E Arentranto, Egra.

FROM Joe Califand

FOR THE PRESIDENT

Attached are: (a) a list of the candidates for the Commission on the Cities which Paul Douglas would chair and (b) a short statement announcing the formation of the Commission National Commission

on Codes, 2 ming, Sasation and Development Standard. I have been over the list with Douglas who agrees with the names. Douglas' aide, Howard Shuman, agrees with the statement, as does \* national Commission on Bob Weaver.

All of the names have been checked out. Macy, Wood, and I believe it is an outstanding group that will get the job done.

If you approve the list, we can start making calls to determine the availability of the candidates. Since Douglas' secretary and Shuman moved to the HUD payroll on January 3, I would recommend announcement this week. Even if we cannot get in touch with the proposed members, we can announce Douglas and Shuman as his staff director.

I recommend your approval of the list and the statement.

List of candidates:		
Approve	Disapprove	
Draft Statement:		
Approve	Disapprove	

Attachments

"Vandergriff, Stomas."
"O'neell, Richard St.
"Dewner, anthony
"De Geove, John
"Skoodbury, Colemans



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JAN 2 7 1967 CENTRAL FILES

#### CANDIDATES FOR THE COMMISSION ON THE CITIES

- Jeh Johnson, Negro Architect, Poughkeepsie, New York. Age 32. Recommended by Cliff Alexander
  - Lewis Davis, Davis, Brody & Associates, New York, New York. Age 34. Recommended by Joe Califano.
- Chloethiel W. Smith, Washington Architect and City Planner. Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Recommended by Robert Weaver.
- 2 Hugo Black, Jr., Miami, Florida. (Son of Justice Black). Recommended by Ed Weisl, Jr.
  - Richard Ravitch, Vice President, HRH
    Construction Corporation, New York, New York,
    Strongly recommended by Ed Weisl, Sr.
  - David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, California. Recommended by the National Association of Counties.
  - Legra Ehrenkrantz, President, Building Systems
    Development, Inc., San Francisco. Recommended
    by Robert Weaver.
- Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia. Recommended by John Macy.
  - John Lyons, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Recommended by George Meany.
- 13 Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor of Arlington, Texas.
  - Richard W. O'Neill, Editor, House and Home Magazine. Recommended by Lloyd Hand.

- Anthony Downs, Treasurer, Real Estate Research Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. Age 35.
- John DeGrove, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida. Recommended by Robert Wood.
- Coleman Woodbury, Professor of Urban Affairs, University of Wisconsin.

/ Lournis on by

# STATEMENT ON **NATIONAL** COMMISSION ON THE CITIES

# CORES, ZONING, TAXATION & Development STANDARDS

No greater challenge faces America than the future of its cities.

The problems are deeply rooted. They are as old as the cities from which they grow.

We have learned that difficulties borne from generations of decay and neglect do not yield to quick or easy solutions.

That is why men of vision and good will have committed themselves to find the right answers. We know those answers <a href="mailto:can">can</a> be found.

Today we renew and continue that search.

I am pleased to announce that one of our most distinguished statesmen and economists -- Senator Paul H. Douglas -- will head a Commission of distinguished citizens to make the thorough study of our cities and urban areas I recommended to the Congress in my 1965 message on the American City and which the Congress approved in 1966.

Under Senator Douglas' direction the Commission will report to the President and to the Congress. Its charter is twofold:

First: to work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and conduct a penetrating review of zoning, housing and building codes, taxation and development standards. These processes have not kept pace with the times. Stunting growth and opportunity, they are the springboards from which many of the ills of urban life flow.

Second: to recommend the solutions, particularly those ways in which the efforts of the Federal Government, private industry, and local communities can be marshalled to increase the supply of low-cost decent housing.

I am delighted that Senator Douglas will continue to serve his country in this promising and challenging assignment.

This Commission is a valuable new addition to our

Government-wide efforts -- led by Robert Weaver, our able Secretary

of Housing and Urban Development -- to help arrest the growing

blight of our central cities and to bring about an urban renaissance

that will make the American city a better place for all to live and work.

I urge all citizens to cooperate and assist the Commission in its vital work.

The President's wishes relayed to WATSON by telephone from Texas

Jones Jake Jacobsen December 30, 1966

Ask what the astericks are for.

Marvin and Jake look at and see why David Rockefeller is here and on everything when is is against us.

LBJ:Mary S 12-30-66 1:450 Part 29-60 MEMORANDUM

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



December 28, 1966 Wednesday, 7:45 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM Joe Califano

Attached are: (a) a list of the candidates for the Commission on the Cities which Paul Douglas would chair and (b) a short statement announcing the formation of the Commission.

I have been over the list with Douglas who agrees with the names, and has asked that two additional candidates — marked with an asterisk — be added. Douglas' aide, Howard Shuman, agrees with the statement, as does Bob Weaver.

All of the names have been checked out. Macy, Wood, and I believe it is an outstanding group that will get the job done.

If you approve the list, we can start making calls to determine the availability of the candidates. Since Douglas' secretary and Shuman move to the HUD payroll on January 3, I would recommend announcement this week. Even if we cannot get in touch with the proposed members, we can announce Douglas and Shuman as his staff director.

I recommend your approval of the list and the statement.

List of candidates.

Approve	Disapprove	_
Draft Statement:		
Approve	Disapprove	

Attachments

#### CANDIDATES FOR THE COMMISSION ON THE CITIES

Jeh Johnson, Negro Architect, Poughkeepsie, New York. Age 32. Recommended by Cliff fAlexander.

Lewis Davis, Davis, Brody & Associates, New York, New York. Age 34. Recommended by Joe Califano.

Chloethiel W. Smith, Washington Architect and City Planner. Fellow of the American Institue of Architects. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

Hugo Black, Jr., Miami, Florida. (Son of Justice Black). Recommended by Ed Weisl, Jr.

President and Vice Chairman of the Board, the Chase Manhattan Bank.

Richard Ravitch, Vice President, HRH Construction Corporation, New York, New York. Strongly recommended by Ed Weisl, Sr.

David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, California. Recommended by the National Association of Counties.

Ezra Ehrenkrantz, President, Building Systems Development, Inc., San Francisco. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia. Recommended by John Macy.

John Lyons, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Recommended by George Meany.

Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor of Arlington, Texas.

Richard W. O'Neill, Editor, House and Home Magazine. Recommended by Lloyd Hand.

Anthony Downs, Treasurer, Real Estate Research Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. Age 35.

John DeGrove, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida. Recommended by Robert Wood.

Coleman Woodbury, Professor of Urban Affairs, University of Wisconsin.

#### December 21, 1966

TO

Will Sparks

FROM

Larry Levinson

Joe Califano has cleared this assignment with Bob Kintner.

It is to prepare an elequent statement by the President announcing the appointment of a blue-rebbon commission -- headed by Senator Paul Douglas -- to study the problems of the city.

Although the commission is formally titled the "Advisory Commission on Codes, Zoning, and Development Standards -- a very lack-luster title (this is what Congress wanted the Commission to be called) the function of the Commission will go beyond these narrow and technical subjects and into the entire range of the problems of the city and the people who live in them.

This is a Commission that will report directly to the President and to the Congress.

This statement should praise Douglas to the skies.

Attached are four items of background:

- -- A draft statement but together by Bob Wood which is too narrow but has some other good material in it.
- -- A proposed letter for the President to send to Douglas, but the rhetoric in the letter is better and should be folded into the statement (there will be no separate letter).
- -- A copy of the President's Syracuse speech where he announced the Commission.
- -- A list of the Commission members.

Joe Califano would appreciate it if you would draft a good statement and send it to him via wire tomorrow afternoon at the LBJ Ranch.

Please calleme if you have any questions.

Attachments

# CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CODES, ZONING, TAXATION, AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

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## NAME AND TITLE

Architect

Jeh Johnson, Negro Architect Poughkeepsie, New York Age 32. Recommended by Cliff Alexander.

Archit4ct

Lewis Davis, Davis, Brody & Associates, New York, New York. Age 34. Recommended by Joe Califano

Architect (female)

Chloethiel W. Smith, Washington Architect and City Planner. Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

Attorney

Hugo Black, Jr., Miami, Florida. (Son of Justice Black) Recommended by Ed Weisl, Jr.

Banker

David Rockefeller, New York, New York. President and Vice-Chairman of the Board, The Chase Manhattan Bank.

Construction

Richard Ravitch, Vice President, HRH Construction Corporation, New York City. Strongly recommended by Ed Weisl, Sr.

County Supervisor

David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, California. Recommended by the National Association of Counties. Developer

Ezra Ehrenkrantz, President, Building Systems Development, Inc., San Francisco. Recommended by Robert Weaver

Governor

Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia. Recommended by John Macy.

Labor

John Lyons, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Recommended by George Meany.

Mayor

Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor of Arlington, Texas

Public Member

Richard W. O'Neill, Editor, House and Home Magazine. Recommended by Lloyd Hand.

Real Estate Planner

Anthony Downs, Treasurer, Real Estate Research Corporation, Chicago, Age 35.

Urban College Educator

John DeGrove, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida. Recommended by Bob Wood.

Urban College Educator

\* Coleman Woodbury, Professor of Urban Affairs, University of Wisconsin.

Urban College Educator

\* Daniel Cavers, Professor, Harvard Law School

Codes & Joning Commission

#### CATEGORY

NAME AND TITLE

ARCHITECT

Jeh Johnson, Negro Architect, Poughkeepsie, New York. Age 2. Recommended by Cliff Alexander

Lewis Davis, Davis, Brody & Associates, New York, New York

BANKER

David M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Continental Illinois Bank and Trust Company, Chicago. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

CONSTRUCTION (2)

Richard Ravitch, Vice President, HRH Construction Corporation, New York City. Strongly recommended by Ed Weisl, Sr.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR

David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, recommended by the National Association of Counties.

DEVELOPER

Esra Ehrenkrants, President, Building Systems Development, Inc., San Francisco. Recommended by Rovert Weaver.

FEMALE

Chloethiel W. Smith, Washington Architect and City Planner. Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

GOVERNOR

Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia. Recommended by John Macy.

LABOR

John Lyons, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Recommended by George Meany.

MAYOR

Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor of Arlington, Texas.

PUBLIC MEMBER

Richard W. O'Neill, Editor, House and Home Magazine. Recommended by Lloyd Hand.

**REAL ESTATE PLANNERS (2)** 

Anthony Downs, Treasurer, Real Estate Research Corporation, Chicago. Age 35.

URBAN COLLEGE EDUCATOR

John de Goove, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton.

#### EYES ONLY

# A DRAFT STATEMENT FOR THE PRESIDENT IN ANNOUNCING A COMMISSION ON CODES, ZONING, AND TAXATION

I am pleased to announce today the members of an Advisory Commission to help carry out a study of major importance in the field of codes, zoning, and taxation.

The members of this Commission are distinguished citizens with broad experience in urban affairs.

I have asked them to lend their time and talent to help the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development carry out the study for which Congress appropriated 1.5 million dollars this fall.

In addition to the members announced today, special experts panels will be appointed to help carry out the study in each specific subject area.

The establishment of this Commission flows from the recommendation in my Message to Congress last year on the Problems and Future of the Central City and its Suburbs.

It is my belief that this study can make a major contribution in the development of ideas and proposals for a dramatic improvement in the quality of our cities and suburbs.

The areas of housing and building codes, zoning, and taxation are key elements affecting the shape and fabric of our society. They are complex subjects, but crucially important. It will take an energetic and hard-working Commission to help find the right answers.

- -- Building codes are a pivotal element in determining whether or not we can make maximum use of this Nation's technological capacity in meeting our urgent building needs as economically and creatively as possible. Too often today they unduly obstruct progress in the application of new methods and new materials in the construction industry and unnecessarily raise cost.
- -- Housing codes can both help sound neighborhoods from slipping into slums and alleviating at least the worst physical conditions in existing areas. Yet frequently, they vary unnecessarily from community to community and do not lend themselves to continuing and realistic enforcement.
- Zoning is the basic instrument by which governments help shape present patterns of metropolitan growth. Under present circumstance, however, they can be a barrier to change and innovation, inflate investment in community facilities, and exclude deserving families from entire neighborhoods.

-- Tax policy is a major factor in determining the flow of capital investment in slum areas and the willingness of homeowners to maintain and up-grade their properties. Now it can inhibit timely rehabilitation, create hardship for the farmer in the path of urban growth, and unduly reward the speculator.

These subjects are all matters of primary state and local responsibility. The problems cannot be solved by Federal fiat. It is my hope that this Commission will develop sound and constructive prospects for consideration by all levels of government and by private organizations and individuals.

The challenge and the opportunity of this Commission will be to bring together all the many diverse interests whose understanding, participation, and cooperation are essential to the achievement of meaningful progress. I am confident that the members will be equal to the task.

No set of deliberations is more important to the future of urban America and the orderly, effective, and economical development of our urban resources than that of this Commission.

# EYES ONLY DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

#### Dear Paul:

I am very pleased and grateful that you have agreed to accept the Chairmanship of the Advisory Commission on Codes, Zoning and Development Standards. I believe -- and think you will discover -- that this assignment is one of the most important you have undertaken in a long career of distinguished national service.

First proposed in my message on the cities in 1965, authorized that year, and funded this year, the Commission's charter is a broad one. Briefly put, it is to examine and evaluate our present national practices in land use and urban development - and make recommendations for their improvement and future direction.

As you know, from a lifetime of concern with urban problems, the laws, rules and regulations governing the building and rebuilding of our cities, are often obselete. Their last comprehensive evaluation was carried out under the direction of Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce. His work set the directions of the 1930's and 1940's. Your work must provide the guidelines from 1970 to the year 2000.

The members of the Commission who serve with you represent a combination of skills, knowledge, and experience unparalleled in our time. The resources that Secretary Robert Weaver directs, in the Department of HUD, are at your disposal, as set forth in the statutes authorizing and appropriating funds for the study. Preparatory research material and specialized staff services of the Department are also available. Other Departments and agencies are prepared to cooperate. I urge that you strike out to provide for America's communities across our continent, the goals, the means, and the techniques by which they can assure that the future process of urban growth is orderly, economical and above all humane.

I will receive the results of your deliberations with the greatest interest. I will act on them with the greatest dispatch, for I believe that there is no greater domestic issue for America than the future of its cities. I believe there is no better instrument for determining the direction than the Commission you have, now direct.

With every good wish,

fication and development to power our industries, float our barges, quench the thirst of our growing cities, and renew the earth from which our food is grown, must be undertaken as a coordinated whole.

No longer will piecemeal or half-way efforts suffice.

Last year Congress enacted, and I signed into law, the Water Quality Act of 1965, to help us control and abate the pollution of our waterways.

In May we consolidated and reorganized the Federal Government's water pollution activities under the Interior Department to make them more effective.

The House Committee on Public Works is meeting almost daily to consider a new and expanded clean rivers bill, already approved by the Senate, to provide greater impetus and financial assistance for our war against pollution of our national waters.

Today, here in Syracuse, the House Natural Resources and Power Subcommittee, under the chairmanship of Congressman Robert E. Jones, has been sitting in hearings to consider new means of protecting the water quality of the Great Lakes.

In the United States, at least 20 billion gallons of water are wasted each day by pollution. This is water that could be used and reused, if treated properly. Today, it is ravaged water—a menace to the health. It flows uselessly past water-hungry communities to an indifferent sea.

Citizens of our largest city, in the midst of last summer's drought, could only look wistfully at the broad Hudson River as it rolled through their city. Clean and usable, it could have provided for all of their needs. But it could not be used, because it was too contaminated for human consumption.

This 20 billion gallon daily waste of water amounts to only about 6 percent of the Nation's total water needs, when we consider the requirements of industry, irrigation, and power. But it is an extremely significant 6 percent, since it constitutes better than one-fourth of the pure water needs of our country. Its loss adversely affects the lives, the economy, the health, and the pleasure of far more than half of our population.

Here in the area of the Finger Lakes and in the drainage basin of our Great Lakes, you have seen the sad spectacle of these magnificent bodies of water beset with decay.

Lake Erie contains at its central core a 2,600 square mile area which can be described, for all practical purposes, as a "dead" body of water. It is so lacking in oxygen that marine life entering the area is doomed. It is a vast underwater "desert," and daily this contaminated area spreads.

Nor is Erie the only one of our Great Lakes beset with decay. It is merely the most advanced case. The water level in all five of them has dropped to the lowest point in recorded history.

Clearly, the time for action is at hand. The problems are made by man and can be solved by enlightened man. They are in many ways a reflection of our fantastic growth, our very affluence, our way of life.

But we will not yield to carelessness or greed in our determination to preserve, unspoiled and unsullied for future generations of Americans, this natural inheritance which we received as our national birthright.

There is enough water falling annually upon our land to sustain us as a nation for all future time, if we are sufficiently able stewards of the treasure to form an intelligent partnership with Nature—to impound it, purify it, conserve it, move it to our areas of need, and thus make it serve our future.

We are determined to preserve our great national water resources. We shall not permit the growing specter of drought, polluted waters, and blighted streams to rob us of our birthright. We shall develop our waterways, as we are doing on the St. Lawrence River. We shall harness the power of our rivers, as we are doing at the Dickey-Lincoln School Project. We shall clean up our polluted rivers and lakes. We shall preserve this national treasure for ourselves and for our children. Every one of us has this responsibility. With your cooperation, I know we shall succeed.

# Syracuse, New York

The President's Remarks at Columbus Circle. August 19, 1966

Mayor Walsh, Mr. Mulroy, one of our great publishers, Mr. Rogers, ladies and gentlemen:

Two years ago I came to Syracuse to receive an honorary degree from your great university here. And I am glad that you invited me back. I hope that I can come again at some future date.

I want to thank the Members of Congress who have come here with Congressman Jones and the National Resources Subcommittee of the Public Works Committee of the House. They have done great work on behalf of the Nation. And I am delighted that they have come here to upstate New York today to continue their hearings to seek information that will be helpful to the entire Government in meeting this very serious problem.

I also want to express my deep appreciation to several other Congressmen who have come with me and have extended the warm hand of New York hospitality to me. I should like for each of them to stand, because I want you to know them.

They have been very helpful to the President. They have served the cause of democracy in the Capital in Washington. And they deserve the recognition and respect that I know you will want to give them.

Congressman Multer of Brooklyn, Congressman Murphy of Brooklyn-Staten Island, Congressman Theodore Kupferman of Manhattan, Congressman Bingham from the Bronx, Congressman John G. Dow of Rockland and Orange, Congressman Joseph R. Resnick of Ellenville, where we'll be in a few minutes, Congressman Seymour Halpern of Queens, Congressman Bob McEwen of Ogdensburg, Congressman Frank Horton of Rochester.

I want to thank Congressman Hanley for that first-rate introduction. I recognize that Congressman Hanley is a first-term Congressman who has already made his mark as a man who knows the problems of his district and he works long and hard for his people. And I do appreciate the chance to come here with him today and to meet his friends and constituents.

I am also glad to have my old friend Sam Stratton with me. I have known him for 25 years. He headed the House Armed Services Committee which went to Viet-Nam and came back with some very penetrating recommendations. He is a courageous Congressman and he is a true patriot, and I am happy that he could be here with us today.

I want to talk to you this afternoon about the center of our society—the American city.

Your two very able and distinguished Senators from New York will join us very shortly, but they couldn't leave Washington with us this afternoon because they had to stay there to try to pass a bill through the Senate.

They were successful in passing it by about a 2 to 1 vote which will mean something to every city in America. And I want to talk to you about the cities of America this afternoon.

Senator Javits and Senator Kennedy, I hope, can join us. And I want to thank them in advance for staying at their post of duty and doing a good job.

For 3 years my administration has been concerned with the question: What do we want our cities to finally become?

For you and your children, those of you who have come here in this hot sun, the question is: What kind of a place will Syracuse be some 50 years from now?

As I drove in from the airport, your publisher and your distinguished mayor and others were talking to me about the plans that you have for this great, growing city.

Syracuse can be a community where your lives are enriched. Syracuse must be a place where every person can satisfy his highest aspirations. Syracuse can be a place to advance the hopes of all of your citizens.

Now this is what we want Syracuse to be. And that is what we want every city in America to be. I think one word can best describe the task that we face—and that one word is immense. Until this decade, we did too little too late. By 1975 we are going to need 2 million new homes a year in this country, we are going to need schools for 60 million children, we are going to need health and welfare programs for 27 million people who will be over 60 years of age, we are going to need transportation facilities for the movement of 200 million peo-

ple, and they will be driving in more than 80 million automobiles.

In less than 40 years—between now and the end of this century—the urban population of this country is going to double, city land will double, and we will have to build in our cities as much as has already been built since the first settler arrived on these shores.

What it has taken us almost 200 years to build, we are going to have to build again in the next 40 years.

That is in your lifetime. We had better get started on it and we had better start learning about it and be interested in it right now.

Let me be clear about the heart of this problem: It is the people who live in our cities and the quality of the lives they lead that should concern every public servant today. We must open new opportunities to all of our people, so that everyone and not just a fortunate few will have access to decent homes and decent schools and good parks and good jobs.

This is a problem that must be met not only by the Federal Government, but by every government, State and local, and by all the people of America. That is why I have enjoyed my afternoon with the Governor of your State, with the mayors of your cities, with your county leaders, with your civic leaders without regard to race or religion or population, or even the name of your town.

I came here today to pledge to you that the Federal Government, as long as I have anything to do with it, is going to meet its responsibilities.

At the same time I came here to ask your local government and your State government and every individual in those places to meet their responsibilities, too.

Now many of the conditions that we seek to tame should never have come about. I think it is shameful that they should continue to exist. I think it is wrong for some people to line their pockets with the tattered dollars of the poor.

So, the first thing we should pledge ourselves to do is to take the profit out of poverty. And there are several steps that we can take.

The first one, I am asking the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Secretary Robert Weaver—whom President John Kennedy stated he intended to appoint to the Cabinet office if the Congress would create it—I'm going to ask Secretary Weaver to set as his goal the establishment, in every ghetto of America, of a neighborhood center to service the people who live in that area.

Second, I am going to ask the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, Mr. Sargent Shriver, to increase the number of neighborhood legal centers in the slums of this Nation. I want these legal centers to make a major effort to help every tenant secure his rights to safe and sanitary housing if he lives in the United States of America.

Third, I am asking the distinguished Attorney General, Mr. Nicholas Katzenbach, to call a conference to develop new procedures to insure that the rights of tenants are \$600 of rent supplements will let private enterprise build a housing unit worth 20 times that amount.

By this we are just beginning. I have laid before the Congress a broad program to help solve the problems. So, I want to say to Congress this afternoon: Give us action. Give us progress. Give us movement. And American cities will be great again.

Give us funds for the Teachers Corps and let our welltrained, skilled teachers bring knowledge and a quest for learning to those children who need it most.

Give us more resources for rent supplements—and let us provide better homes for so many who now live in substandard housing.

Give us the civil rights bill—and let us break the chains that bind the ghetto by banishing discrimination from the sale and rental of housing.

Give us the means to prosecute the War Against Poverty—and let us provide jobs and training for adults and a good head start for the very young people of this nation.

Give us the child nutrition act—and let us offer breakfasts and hot lunches to needy children who can be encouraged to stay in school.

Give us the legislation—and we can help overcome a shortage of trained medical personnel in this country.

Give us the hospital bill—and we can build and modernize hospitals in every city in this land to serve our citizens who live in these cities.

Give us the money for urban mass transit—and our cities can begin to provide adequate transportation for their people.

Give us a just minimum wage—and more American workers will earn a decent income.

Give us better unemployment insurance—and men out of work can be trained for jobs that need workers.

Give us a truth-in-lending bill—so that customers especially those who are poor, can know the honest cost of the money they are borrowing.

Give us the truth-in-packaging bill—so the hard-earned dollars of the poor, as well as of every American, can be protected against deception and against false values.

Yes, we have an agenda for action. We have taken the first steps toward great cities for a great society. And now if Congress will give us the power to move ahead on these fronts, we will get going.

This is no time for delay. This is no time to relax our efforts. We know that there is no magic equation that will produce an instant solution to the blight and the poverty and the want that is deposited in our cities by decades of inaction and indifference.

But we also know there is no substitute for action.

I do not know how long it is going to take to rebuild our cities. I do not know that we can. But I do know this: it must not—and will not—take us forever. For my part the your President, I pledge that this administration is going to do all it can to build great cities for a Great Society.

We hope the next time we return to Syracuse it will be an even greater city than it is today.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5 p.m. at Columbus Circle in Syracuse, N.Y.

## Ellenville, New York

The President's Remarks at the Dedication of the Ellenville Community Hospital. August 19, 1966

Mr. Chairman, Congressman Resnick, Senator Javits and Senator Kennedy, distinguished members of the New York delegation, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Mayor Glusker, I am delighted that I should have received this invitation to come here and visit with your people this evening.

I am especially grateful to you and your city for this generous display of typical New York hospitality. And I and my family shall long remember it.

I am particularly honored that Senator Javits, a man with whom I have served in the House and Senate for many years, one of our most respected Senators, a true progressive and a devoted American, and the senior Senator from New York, is here, and what really pleases me is that a Republican Senator would be here on the platform with a Democratic President.

But today, we have been dealing with the problems of not Republicans or Democrats—and both of us have plenty—but we have been dealing with the problems of Americans. And we are all Americans before we are Republicans or before we are Democrats.

We have been talking about pollution—and what we can do about it. We have been talking about educating our children and building their minds—and what we can do about it.

We have been talking about the health of our citizens, the care of their bodies and building strong constitutions and what we can do about it.

We have been talking about beautifying our land and bringing peace to the world—and what we can do about it.

On all of those things, both Senator Javits and Senator Kennedy are there in Washington, not as Republicans or Democrats—as are other Members of Congress from both parties here tonight—but they are there as Americans.

I am very pleased that Senator Robert F. Kennedy, a young man for whom I have the deepest respect, an extremely able and effective legislator, should have joined us this afternoon, after he and Senator Javits and the other Members of the Senate passed a very remarkable bill, the Demonstration Cities bill, through the Senate.

They came here to make these appearances with us and they are already, I expect, about an hour late to engagements that they had before they knew I was coming here.

#### EYES ONLY

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

#### Office of the Secretary

#### ORDER

Establishment of Advisory Commission on Codes, Zoning, Taxation, and Development Standards

WHEREAS Section 301 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 directs the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to conduct a study relating to housing and building codes, soning, tax policies, and development standards and to submit a report thereon to the President and the Congress within 18 months after September 6, 1966;

WHEREAS this study is of great importance to the general public, private industry, and government, and can contribute significantly to the realisation of national housing and urban development objectives; and

WHEREAS the advice and recommendations of experts outside of the Department of Housing and Urban Development would materially assist the Secretary in conducting this study;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordered as follows:

- 1. There is hereby established the Advisory Commission on Codes, Zoning, Taxation, and Development Standards pursuant to section 601 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701h), and section 301 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1456, Note).
- 2. The purpose of the Commission is to advise the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (hereafter called the "Secretary") on the Department's

study of housing codes, building codes, soning, tax policy, and development standards in order that the Secretary may report to the President and the Congress in accordance with the statutory requirements. To this end, the Commission shall consider and make recommendations for modernizing and improving housing and building code systems and code enforcement, encouraging better land and building patterns through improved development standards and soning policies and practices, and devising tax policies designed to strengthen community resources and encourage private enterprise in the provision and rehabilitation of housing and the elimination of slums and blighted areas. The functions of the Commission shall be advisory, and final determinations of actions to be taken with respect to matters upon which the Commission advises or recommends shall be made by officers or employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- 3. The Commission shall be composed of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and additional members who may be designated to serve as special expert panels for each of the five subject areas of the study and as a general review board.
  - a. Each special expert panel of the Commission shall supply information and advice for the study, examine study plans and make suggestions and recommendations to the Secretary in connection therewith, discuss and comment on study and other reports, and submit to the Secretary reports of findings and recommendations with respect to the respective panel's designated subject area.
  - b. The general review board of the Commission shall review plans for the study as a whole, ensure advisory consideration of

interrelationships among the separate subject areas of the study, review the reports of each of the special expert panels, and provide the Secretary with suggestions, recommendations, or supplementary views concerning such reports and the Secretary's report to the President and to the Congress on the completed study.

- 4. The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Secretary to serve for one year from the date of appointment. A member may be reappointed. It is estimated that each member of the Commission will serve no more than 30 days during the period of any one year appointment.
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_\_ shall serve as Chairman of the Commission. \_\_\_\_\_\_ shall serve as Vice-Chairman and act as Chairman in the event of the Chairman's absence or inability to act. The Assistant Secretary for Demonstrations and Intergovernmental Relations shall be responsible for ensuring that Commission meetings comply with the requirements of Section 6 of Executive Order 11007 (27 F.R. 1875, 2/26/62). The Commission, including the general review board and special expert panels, shall meet at the call of the Chairman, subject to the approval of the Assistant Secretary for Demonstrations and Intergovernmental Relations. Heetings may be held in Washington, B. C., or such other places as may be reasonably necessary to assure achievement of the objectives of this order.
- 6. The advice of members of the Commission is sought because of the individual qualifications of the members, and a member serves in an independent (rather than a representative) capacity. Because of the capacity in which a Commission member serves and the estimated period of service, a Commission member is a "special Government employee" (as defined by 18 U.S.C. 202).

7. A member of the Commission not otherwise employed by the United States shall receive \$100 per diem when engaged in the performance of duties pursuant to this Order and may be allowed, while away from his home or regular place of business, transportation expenses and \$16.00 per diem in lieu of subsistence as authorised by Section 5 of the Act of August 2, 1946, as smended (5 U.S.C. 5703) and section 601 of the Housing Act of 1949, as smended (12 U.S.C. 1701h).

Effective as o	ž .	1966.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

# THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CODES, ZONING, TAXATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The problems in this field are intricate and complex. They will require a great deal of ingenuity and new approaches. If we can get some of these problems solved, we will go a long way in bringing our urban programs to the people much more effectively and responsively, with less cost and greater efficiency.

You originally proposed this commission in your 1965 cities message. You emphasized the need for the commission in your Syracuse speech on the cities last August.

The 89th Congress has now specifically authorized the establishment of the commission. Public Law 89-117, directed by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to study and report on the structure of:

- (1) State and local urban and suburban housing and building laws, standards, codes, and regulations and their impact on housing and building costs, how they can be simplified, improved, and enforced, at the local level, and what methods might be adopted to promote more uniform building codes and the acceptance of technical innovations including new building practices and materials;
- (2) State and local zoning and land use laws, codes, and regulations, to find ways by which state and localities may improve and utilize them in order to obtain further growth and development; and
- (3) Federal, state and local tax policies with respect to their effect on land and property cost and on incentives to build housing and make improvements in existing structures.

The commission's report will be submitted to the President and the Congress within 18 months.

## CANDIDATES FOR THE COMMISSION ON CODES, ZONING, TAXATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, California

Hugo Black, Jr., Lawyer Miami, Florida

Lewis Davis, Architect Brody & Associates New York, New York

John DeGrove, Professor Florida Atlantic University Boca Raton, Florida

Anthony Downs, Treasurer Real Estate Research Corporation Chicago, Illinois

Ezra Ehrenkrantz, President Building Systems Development, Inc. San Francisco, California

Jeh Johnson, Architect Poughkeepsie, New York

John Lyons, General President International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers

Richard W. O'Neill, Editor House and Home Magasine

Richard Ravitch, Vice President HRH Construction Corporation New York, New York Carl Sanders
Former Governor of Georgia

Chloethiel W. Smith Washington Architect and City Planner

Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor Arlington, Texas

Coleman Woodbury, Professor of Urban Affairs University of Wisconsin PAUL H. DOUGLAS Former Senator, Illinois

Age: 74

Length of Senate service: 18 years

## Background as economist:

- (1) President of American Economics Association
- (2) City Official and Alderman, Chicago -- 1939-1942
- (3) One of the co-sponsors of the Model Cities Bill

#### Present position:

Teacher, political science, The New School for Social Research New York

STATEMENT ON COMMISSION ON THE CITIES

No greater challenge faces America than the future of its cities.

The problems are deeply-rooted. They are as old as the cities from which they grow.

We have learned that difficulties borne from generations of decay and neglect do not yield to quick or easy solutions.

That is why men of vision and good-will have committed themselves to find the right answers. We know those answers can be found.

Today we renew and continue that search.

I am pleased to announce that one of our most distinguished statesmen and economists -- Senator Paul H. Douglas -- will head a Commission of equally distinguished citizens to make a thorough study of our cities and urban areas.

Under Senator Douglas' direction the Commission will report to the President and to the Congress. Its charter is threefold:

First: to isolate the problems.

Second: to recommend the solutions, particularly those ways in which the efforts of the Federal Government, private industry, and local communities can be marshalled to increase the supply of low-cost decent housing.

Third: to work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and conduct a penetrating review of zoning, housing and building codes, taxation and development standards. These processes have not kept pace with the times. Stunting growth and opportunity, they are the springboards from which many of the ills of urban life flow.

This Commission stems from the recommendations I made in my 1055 Message on the American City. At the last session, Congress provided the funds to allow the Commission to begin its work.

I am happy that Senator Douglas will continue to serve his country in this promising and challenging assignment.

The Commission on the Problems of the American City is a valuable new addition to our Government-wide efforts to help arrest the growing blight of our central cities and to bring about an urban renaissance that will make the American city a better place for all to live and work.

I urge all citizens to cooperate and assist the Commission in its vital work.

Robert C. Wood, Under Secretary

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SECRETARY

H. Ralph Taylor

Proposed Program of Selected Code Enforcement and Accelerated Municipal Services

As you know, the Department has been requested by the Senate Banking and Currency Coamittee to provide as soon as possible a report on "...the steps which might be taken to provide interim relief to...blighted areas until such time as they are cleared or permanently improved." (Senate Report No. 1455, p. 12). In addition, the White House has asked the Department for legislative proposals for 1967. The attached proposal for a program of Salected Code Enforcement and Accelerated Municipal Services is designed to meet both requests.

This proposed program would authorize:

- 1. Federal grants for intensive but selective code enforcement.
- Federal loans and grants to property owners where private action is feasible.
- 3. Federal loans to localities for public action to improve structures where private action is infeasible.
  - 4. Federal grants for limited public improvements.
  - 5. Requirement for accelerated municipal services.
  - Coordination with anti-poverty efforts.
  - 7. Designation of the area for future long-term action.

The proposed program is intended to meet three basic needs. First, there is the need for a program to bring comprehensive assistance to the many blighted neighborhoods that will not have the advantage of such assistance under the Model Cities Program. Secondly, there is the need to

extend more code enforcement assistance to local communities in order that the upcoming requirement for code enforcement as a component of the workable program might be more easily compiled with. You remember that the 1964 Housing Act contains a provision, sponsored by Representative Widnall, that will prevent workable program recertification unless the community is "carrying out an effective program of enforcement to achieve compliance with such housing codes." Finally, there is the need to build indigenous leadership in local communities through a program of smaller scale than the Model Cities Program in preparation for the time when all cities will be involved in a comprehensive attack on community problems.

This program offers a half-way-house in our transition to systematic local problem solving. At the same time it offers highly visable relief to the populations forced to wait for the extensive attention that they both need and deserve.

If you find the attached proposal of sufficient interest to merit further consideration, additional material, including cost estimates, will be provided.

Assistant Secretary (D&IR)

#### Attachment

CC: CF(2)
Hummel - 802N
Kamm- # 705N
Hunt - 864Laf
Ardee Ames - Rm. 103EOB
Reichel - 825Laf
Taylor - 402N
Foard - 714N
Janis - 600N
Chron - 411N
King - 404N

D:JKING:jlh:12/12/66

Large areas of physically blighted and decayed housing in our cities remain untouched by any of our present efforts at slum elimination. Because of the costs involved, it will be many years before our various long-term programs aimed at bringing these areas up to a self-sustaining level can reach them. It is also clear that conventional code enforcement (such as that authorized to be assisted under Section 117) would be both inappropriate and ineffective in dealing with the problems of neighborhoods in an advanced state of decay.

The lack of action in these neighborhoods, which are primarily ghettos, is a major cause of the alienation which crupts in violence with all of its costs and problems. What is needed for these areas is a program of temporary holding actions to alleviate the most critical housing and environmental deficiencies until such time as the more long-range programs can be implemented. Such a program would aim at bringing about repairs in such essential areas as heating, plumbing, water supply, wiring, lighting, etc. It would have to be carried out in conjunction with intensified efforts for the provision of such municipal services as garbage removal, rodent control, etc. But this minimal improvement of housing and environmental conditions must have a longer range goal. It should be regarded as an opportunity to simultaneously bring to bear intensive social service and anti-poverty

efforts to prepare the residents for the eventual long-term improvement in their environment and living conditions.

It is proposed that legislation be introduced to authorize and fund a Federal program of loans and grants to assist localities in carrying out an integrated program aimed at alleviating the worst slum conditions on a short term basis. Such a program would have the following components:

- 1. Federal grants for intensive but selective code enforcement.
  This will be similar to the present Section 117 program,
  but with the following distinct differences:
  - a. The assistance would be authorized for badly blighted areas rather than those in which code enforcement is in itself expected to arrest the blight of the area.
  - b. It would be on a continuing basis, rather than limited to a 3-year goal for the arrest of blight.
  - c. It would be limited to the enforcement of those provisions of the housing code which relate to the most fundamental conditions of sanitation, health, and decency.
- 2. Federal loans and grants to property owners where private action is feasible. To allow as large a component as possible of the repair and improvement work to be carried out by existing owners, it will be necessary to provide financial assistance to such owners. A program of rehabilitation loans

and grants, similar to those in the urban renewal program, is proposed. However, such assistance would be limited to the amounts necessary to bring the property up to the selective code standards and the conditions under which loans were made would have to recognize the probability of public condemnation prior to repayment.

Pederal loans to localities for public action to improve structures where private action is infeasible. The program would recognize that there will be many situations in which private action will be infeasible and that public actions will be required to meet even the selective code standards. The capacity and willingness of a locality to carry out such action would be a prerequisite for Federal assistance. A wide variety of forms might be acceptable. Such forms might include receivership laws, public acquisition and operation of the property, public repairs with the costs as a lien against the property, leasing and repair of the property by a local housing authority or a nonprofit group. None of these approaches will work on a large scale without adequate financial backing. Low interest rate Federal loans are proposed for this purpose, with the understanding that these loans would be repaid as part of the cost of the ultimate project to provide the long-term solution for the area.

- Federal grants for limited public improvements. Concurrent with the repair and improvement of housing, there must be a parallel effort at the improvement of environmental conditions. For this purpose, it is proposed that Federal grants be provided for a percentage of the cost of such repairs and improvements. Since we are aiming only at a holding operation, the allowable repairs and improvements should be commensurate with the level sought with respect to housing. These might include the provision of temporary playgrounds and recreational facilities in areas where the demolition of unsafe structures would be necessary; the provision of temporary structures for schools, libraries, etc.; and the patching up and repairing of existing roads, sewers, schools, and other public buildings. Where the locality proposes more permanent and extensive public improvements, these should be allowed as creditable for future urban renewal projects, but not financed from this new program.
- 5. Requirement for accelerated municipal services. While there is good reason for limiting the level of capital investment in a holding area, the reverse is true with respect to the provision of municipal and social services. The toleration of housing conditions at less than normally acceptable standards must be offset by the highest achievable

will be such services as street cleaning, garbage collection, and police and fire protection. The provision of such services at a level <u>qualitatively equivalent</u> to that prevailing in the rest of the city would be a prerequisite for the other Federal financial assistance provided, but no Federal assistance is proposed for this purpose.

- 6. Coordination with anti-poverty efforts. Since the holding area will be the site of future slum elimination efforts, it must be regarded as an opportunity for the improvement of social conditions in anticipation of future physical improvements. Of particular importance would be efforts to improve tenant attitudes towards the maintenance of their housing units. No program would be approved unless it were closely tied into anti-poverty efforts in the same area.
- 7. Designation of the area for future long-term action.

  Although there are hazards in designating areas for future action, such designations should be required in any area where the proposed assistance will be given. Without such designation, there is a danger that the area will become a legally tolerated enclave of substandard conditions. As a prerequisite to the assistance, the municipality should be required to state its intentions for significant renewal action.

## Supporting Papers

If the proposal outlined above is found acceptable, there will be a need for further supporting papers and analyses, including the following:

- The size of the problem -- the number of substandard housing units in urban areas versus the rate of elimination under present programs.
- Analysis of reasons why conventional code enforcement is ineffective in badly decayed areas.
- 3. The nature of selective code standards.
- 4. The legal problems involved in enforcement of selective provision of housing codes.
- Rehabilitation loans and grants and how they would need to be modified for a holding area operation.
- 6. Methods of public actions which might be employed to improve housing conditions. The nature of Federal loans to finance such operations.
- 7. Types of limited public improvements which could be financed in a holding area program.
- 8. Determine the level of "Qualitatively equivalent" public services which would be required.
- 9. Coordination with anti-poverty efforts.

- 10. The nature of the required designation of the area and the commitment to future renewal actions.
- 11. Cost estimates for the program.
- 12. Legislative draft.

## BIOGRAPHIC DATA

LYONS, John H.

Age 47 (Born October 29, 1919

in Cleveland, Ohio)

Home: 7 Devondale Lane

St. Louis, Missouri

## PRESENT POSITION

General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural & Ornamental Iron Workers

## EDUCATION

B.S., Missouri School of Mines

## FAMILY DATA

Married with 2 children

## PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

General Vice President and General Organizer, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural & Ornamental Iron Workers

## ALSO

Vice President, Building & Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO Vice President, Metal Trades Department, AFL-CIO Member, AFL-CIO Internal Disputes Panel Member, Citizens Advisory Council to President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency Member, Advisory Council, Bureau of Employment Security Member, Taft-Hartley Labor Management Panel Chairman, Labor Advisory Committee to President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity

SOURCE: Data from the file October 3, 1966 - il

## BIOGRAPHIC DATA

O'NEILL, Richard W.
Age 41 (Born September 5, 1925)

Home: 170 West End Avenue New York, New York

## PRESENT POSITION

Editor, House and Home Magazine

EDUCATED

1950

Degree in civil engineering, Yale University Studied one year at Oxford University, England

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

1955-now

Editor, House and Home

MILITARY DATA

Served 3 years in World War II infantry

SOURCE: Data from the file

October 27, 1966 - il

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

2:15 p.m., Sunday December 18, 1966 FG170/NX PRII

FG295

FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM

Joe Califano

Attached is a list of candidates for the Commission on Codes, Zoning and Taxation.

I have been over the list with Paul Douglas who agrees with the names and has asked that three additional candidates -- marked by an \* -- be added.

All of the names have been checked. Macy, Bob Wood and I believe it is an outstanding group that will get the job done.

If you approve the list, we will make the necessary phone calls and you could announce the Commission this week.

Howard Shuman, who has served as Douglas' Administrative
Assistant for a number of years, will be the Executive Director
of the Commission. Douglas will also bring his secretary over.
John Macy assures me that Shuman's and Douglas' secretaries will
be paid at least what they are getting now and possibly a little more.

If you approve the list, we will start making calls to determine availability of candidates, and will prepare a good statement for you to use when the Commission is announced.

Disappro	ve list
Fatirual Commisses	and Mational Commission Problems when on Codes, Zoning, Safation

Approve list

# CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CODES, ZONING, TAXATION, AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

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## NAME AND TITLE

Architect

Jeh Johnson, Negro Architect Poughkeepsie, New York Age 32. Recommended by Cliff Alexander.

Architéct

Lewis Davis, Davis, Brody & Associates, New York, New York. Age 34. Recommended by Joe Califano

Architect (female)

Chloethiel W. Smith, Washington Architect and City Planner. Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Recommended by Robert Weaver.

Attorney

Hugo Black, Jr., Miami, Florida. (Son of Justice Black) Recommended by Ed Weisl, Jr.

Banker

\* David Rockefeller, New York, New York. President and Vice-Chairman of the Board, The Chase Manhattan Bank.

Construction

Richard Ravitch, Vice President, HRH Construction Corporation, New York City. Strongly recommended by Ed Weisl, Sr.

County Supervisor

David L. Baker, Supervisor of the 2nd District of Orange County, California. Recommended by the National Association of Counties. Developer

Ezra Ehrenkrantz, President, Building Systems Development, Inc., San Francisco. Recommended by Robert Weaver

Governor

Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia. Recommended by John Macy.

Labor

John Lyons, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers. Recommended by George Meany.

Mayor

Thomas Vandergriff, Mayor of Arlington, Texas

1,

Public Member

Richard W. O'Neill, Editor, House and Home Magazine. Recommended by Lloyd Hand.

Real Estate Planner

Anthony Downs, Treasurer, Real Estate Research Corporation, Chicago. Age 35.

Urban College Educator

John DeGrove, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida. Recommended by Bob Wood.

Urban College Educator

\* Coleman Woodbury, Professor of Urban Affairs, University of Wisconsin.

Urban College Educator

\* Daniel Cavers, Professor, Harvard Law School

#### **MEMORANDUM**

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



#### Marvin:

On the New York Things, Iwould sure clear those with Bobby Kennedy and the districts in which they live, and I don't want but one from New York--whichever one they want--let them choose.

I don't want David Rockefeller on anything.

I would clear out all of these with the politicians --

I sure don't recommend anybody suggested by Hand unless you check it. And I on't want anybody from the University of Wiso nsin either -- or Harvard.

LBJ/mf 12-19-66 8:15p

FEB 9 1967