

The problems of adequate planning for modern cities are immense. The opening up of new residential areas and the movement of commercial centres to outlying areas, either in response to new population groupings or to escape traffic congestion in downtown areas, have produced conditions of blight in many cities. Gradual deterioration of older residential districts, even in comparatively new cities, has also contributed to the need for rehabilitation and conservation. Although financial assistance for development is made available by the Federal Government, civic administrators and citizens alike are becoming increasingly aware of the need for their initiative and participation in civic planning and development. The importance of this subject is underlined by the expectation that, during the next 20 years, population growth is going to accelerate greatly in many parts of the country.

RP/A