



# REPORT



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1971-72 COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING  
PROGRAM \$568,780

OPP's 1971-72 program for comprehensive planning has been approved by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The total budget of \$568,780 will be provided through a \$346,474 grant from HUD, with matching funds and services being contributed by state and local governments.

The biggest portion of the budget (\$246,500) has been earmarked for local governments through 21 sub-contracts, and an additional share (\$81,500) will be expended for state

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Work is proceeding satisfactorily on Iowa's portion of the 1972 National Transportation Planning Study (NTPS). (See *OPP Report*, April 1971, p. 5.) The study encompasses two major phases: (1) the estimation of transportation needs throughout the state, and (2) the estimation of capital investment to meet these needs over three periods of time.

The study is structured around four manuals: Manual A, *General Instructions*; Manual B, *National Highway Functional Classification and Needs Study*; Manual C, *Urban Public Transportation*; Manual D, *Airports and Other Intercity Terminals*.

The governor of each state was directed to designate an individual or agency to coordinate the study. In Iowa, the coordination role was assigned to the Office for Planning and Programming. The local area input to the study will be provided by the metropolitan and regional planning commissions in Iowa. The Iowa Highway Commission is participating in the highway phase of the study, and several private and public transportation experts are providing input to other portions of the study.

The responses from the several groups involved will be summarized by the State and reported to the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. There is provision throughout the study for narrative comment on all portions of the information submitted.

The study calls for responses in four general areas:

1. An estimate of unmet needs in transportation for 1970, an estimate of forecasted needs from 1970 to 1980, and an estimate of forecasted needs from 1980 to 1990. These needs estimates are not constrained by any financial considerations.
2. Given a low level of federal funding, as determined by the Office of the Secretary, which needs would be satisfied?
3. Given a higher level of federal funding, again set by the Office of the Secretary, which needs would be satisfied?
4. Given the same level of funding, but removing the current modal restrictions, which needs would be satisfied and what shifts of funds would occur between modes?

Iowa is conducting the study in the following manner:

1. The State coordinator established contact with, obtained commitment for participation from, and explained the facets of the study to each of the urban planning

groups in the State and the other selected respondents.

2. The various respondents completed the needs estimate portion of the study and returned them to the coordinator.
3. The coordinator, based upon the needs estimate submitted and the funding levels provided by the study, developed allocations under each funding level and time period for use by the respondents in completing the capital improvement portion of the study (the list of what would be purchased with the money available).
4. The respondent submits the capital improvement information to the coordinator, who then summarizes it for submission to the Office of the Secretary.
5. Throughout each phase of the study, respondents are asked to submit narrative comment on matters pertaining to the adequacy of the data submitted, the particular problems they find in their own areas, differences of opinion as to the decisions relating to the information submitted, comment on the general structure of the study, and other matters.

The National Transportation Planning Study involves state and local governments in a cooperative process of developing long-range needs estimates and establishment of tentative priorities for meeting these needs under the constraints of projected federal funding. This approach should lead to a more flexible and more effective use of transportation dollars at the federal, state, and local levels of government.

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OPP ANNUAL REPORT FORTHCOMING

*Performance 1970-71 and Plans 1971-72; An Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly* will soon be published by OPP. Its purpose is twofold: it reports on the achievements of OPP programs during FY 1971 and it informs the reader of the anticipated work that will be undertaken during FY 1972 in each program area.

The *Report* is performance based, i.e., it sets forth objectives for each program area and then reports on what has been done and what will be done to accomplish those objectives. For this reason, each program area is divided into three sections: objectives, accomplishments 1970-1971, and targets 1971-1972. The short, concise statements included under each will provide a quick summary of each program's work. This format should allow the reader to gain an easy understanding of past performance and of projected targets for the coming year.

# # # #

ON THE NATIONAL SCENE

HUD to Guarantee First  
New-Town-In-Town

HUD Issues Evaluation Criteria  
for Sewer and Water Grants

Criteria for evaluating preliminary applications for the basic sewer and water grant program have been issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Initial evaluation of the applications is necessary, according to HUD, because funding requests exceed the available funds for grants for eligible facilities.

Applications will be judged on their relative merit in each of the following major categories: (a) orderly growth and development, including service area need, capacity for future growth, planning objectives and state and regional (or metropolitan) clearinghouse concern; (b) financial need; (c) accessibility and condition of housing; (d) the health benefits to be derived by the proposed project; (e) local job and business opportunities; and (f) the degree to which the project is necessary for undertaking other community development projects.

The new evaluation criteria became effective July 1, 1971, and were published in 36 *Federal Register* 12219, June 29, 1971.

House Ups Sewer Funds,  
Passes Agriculture Money Bill

The U. S. House has passed the fiscal 1972 appropriations bill for the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency, H.R. 9270, following the adoption of an amendment that increased the amount proposed for basic sewer and water facilities grants from \$350 million to \$700 million. The grants are made available to rural areas but are administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Volpe Announces \$75 Million  
Increase in Airport Grants

Transportation Secretary John Volpe has announced that the fiscal 1972 obligational level for airport grants will be increased by \$75 million, to a total of \$280 million. The increase represents a total raise of \$170 million over the \$110 million fiscal 1971 level.

The first new-town-in-town under the new community development program will be built in Minneapolis with a \$24 million loan guarantee by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Acting HUD Secretary Richard Van Dusen announced the guarantee offer, which will aid in the development of the 100-acre subdivision (Cedar Riverside) that is located within an urban renewal project area.

Plans for Cedar Riverside call for an eventual population of 30,000 housed in 12,500 dwelling units to be constructed over a 20-year period. The developers are studying the possibility of "pairing" the new town with the new community of Jonathan, 20 miles west of Minneapolis at Chaska. Pairing would involve the exchange of facilities and expertise in arts and culture, education, recreation, health and social services.

Photographs of architects' scale models are available from the New Services Division, HUD, Room 4182, Washington, D. C. 20410.

# # # #

OF NOTE IN IOWA

Cultural Innovation in the Model Cities

A bit of Oriental culture has recently been introduced into the Des Moines Model Cities. In conjunction with the Des Moines Independent School District, the City Demonstration Agency, the State of Iowa, and the Community Relations Division of the Des Moines Police Department, a Judo program has been implemented as part of the Expanded Use of School Facilities Project.

Boys, girls, and adults of all ages are being encouraged to attend "Randori" (practice sessions) at the Des Moines community centers that are now offering Judo. Judokans (students) are learning the history of the art and also bits of Japanese language, culture, and temperament under the instruction of a specialist from the Des Moines Police Department Community Relations Division. This is a full-time avocation of the sensei (judo instructor), made possible by the donation of Model Cities resources.

Judo will teach the Judokans respect for their fellow men regardless of race, creed and ethnic background, serving to sensitize them to the inter-related aspects of human interaction. On

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the mat, a person is a person. Sportsmanship, maturity, and security is stressed from the first experience.

In the near future, some of the students will be competing in the National Tournament held in Odessa, Texas. The instructor expects a good showing of his group in this highly competitive tournament.

The project is significant because instruction in Judo in the United States has been available previously only to those with the ability to pay the rather steep fees demanded by the high overhead related to teaching the art. Since the instructor is a member of the police department, it is also hoped that the police stereotype endemic to the area will be replaced by attitudes that feature policemen as individuals interested in peace, order and the unimpaired pursuit of worthwhile experiences. It is also projected that policemen who are biased about working in a low income neighborhood will be detected as a result of the personal contacts made by the community relations man.

For further information, please contact the Division of Municipal Affairs, Office for Planning and Programming.

#### Guide to Building Removal Available

A question frequently asked of DMA staff by Iowa municipalities is "How do we get rid of abandoned, dilapidated buildings in our town?" Presenting both an "eyesore" and safety hazard, these residential and commercial properties from another era not only detract from the attractiveness of communities, but occupy lots that could be made available for new construction or recreation. Such buildings usually have been abandoned by a private owner, or have become the property of the county through non-payment of taxes.

In response to this question, the Division of Municipal Affairs has prepared a guide for use by city and town councils in coping with this problem. The guide outlines the step-by-step procedure for disposing of such buildings under each of three alternative methods allowed by Iowa law, which are:

1. Court action against the owner for maintaining a nuisance, under Chapter 657 of the *Code of Iowa*;
2. Administrative method, which requires the adoption of a municipal building ordinance defining abandoned buildings as unsafe and dangerous, and subsequent public hearing; and,

3. Recourse through the condemnation power of the State Fire Marshal.

The guide is not intended as a precise model to be followed by every municipality, but is rather a general descriptive presentation of available alternatives. An appendix is provided which contains samples of a model building ordinance, first notice of hearing, and a resolution directing corrective action by the owner.

*Municipal Procedures for Disposal of Abandoned Buildings* should serve a useful supplement to professional legal counsel from a municipal attorney. Copies of this guide may be obtained from DMA upon request.

#### Projects Underway for ICB Awards

Cities and towns entered in the 1971 Community Betterment Awards Competition will include a categorical variety of projects in their entries for the judges' attention in November. Since the competition is not restricted to any certain type of project or projects, this variety could be endless. Projects included in a community's entry will be judged by these general criteria: (a) actual results in relation to the theme of community improvement; (b) a project's suitability to the community's size, needs, resources and potential; and (c) the scope and degree of community-wide involvement and participation in the planning and execution of community projects.

Meetings with Community Betterment groups across the State have indicated a high degree of interest in beautification, downtown improvement, tourism and industrial promotion, and recreational development. Some examples of projects found underway in these areas are:

Beautification - City-wide landscape planting of flowering trees and shrubs; a continual program of plantings to replace trees lost to Dutch elm disease; design and planting of flower beds at major entrances to the city and along primary streets; local competition for best appearing private real property; razing of abandoned buildings and landscaping of empty lots; exterior floodlighting of courthouse and landscaping of square;

Downtown Improvement - Painting and restoration of retail business property to emphasize turn-of-the-century architecture; clearing and paving of business district property for additional off-street parking; development of landscaped municipal parking lot and adjacent greenbelt park;

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Tourism Promotion - Capitolizing on local aspect of agriculture to encourage tourist trade; regional cooperation in promotion of tourism in new recreational area; historical restoration of town as part of county-wide cooperative promotion and development;

Industrial Development - Cooperation for development of county industrial park; local manufacture of meat product to emphasize area specialty; community financing for expansion of existing industry;

Recreational Development - Revitalization of existing, long-neglected municipal park; landscaping and maintenance of highway rest area near city; cooperative greenbelt development between two towns on scenic river.

Iowa communities not entered in the 1971 Community Betterment Program Awards Competition may receive information regarding entry in 1972 by writing the Division of Municipal Affairs.

Utilizing Resources for Development

"Development" is generally considered a desirable goal for a community or region. Few citizens, however, fully agree on how best to achieve "development", even though they may be engaged in such activities through participation in local Chambers of Commerce, industrial corporations and like organizations. Little attention is paid to specifically defining the development concept in terms of the many public and private bodies which exist for the purpose of conserving resources, utilizing growth opportunities, and promoting local and area development.

Many commissions, organizations, and governmental agencies function for the above purpose, and are ready to serve localities and regions in their efforts to improve life in general for area residents. In order to use these services to the best advantage, however, localities must determine what aid is available from each agency, and how to apply this aid to their developmental goal.

A Regional Planning Commission is well suited to identify and use the services of various development-oriented bodies. It has as its general mandate the function of guiding growth through orderly, logical application of information resources, the compilation of data, and the design of policy recommendations for local and county government use. Information resources become useful through knowledge of the various agencies and their functions; applicable data is obtained upon request from many agencies once the local

commission knows what is needed and available. Suppose, for example, a need exists to protect remaining soil and water resources in the area. The commission will know that the Soil Conservation Service is in a position to provide assistance in developing and implementing a conservation program in the area, and the program can be included in the regional commission's overall work schedule. Upon completion of the conservancy program, the experience can be used as a basis for conservation policy recommendations to elected officials of the area.

The following list includes those local and multi-county wide agencies readily identifiable as existing in the interest of individual, community and regional betterment: (1) Area Planning Commissions, (2) County Crime Commissions, (3) Area Health Planning Councils, (4) Area and County Extension Offices, (5) Community Action Agencies (OEO), (6) ASCS County Offices, (7) SCS Area Conservation Offices and Work Units, and (8) Resource Conservation & Development District Offices\*.

These agencies are primarily a source of technical advisory assistance, and should be used in developing and implementing programs which relate to areawide needs and opportunities, but application of their assistance can bring local results as well. In addition to the above, there are local agencies and organizations throughout the state which could conceivably be of aid to local and area growth. Examples are local betterment committees, housing authorities, and industrial (development) corporations. Such bodies can be very helpful in working toward developmental goals and organizing area efforts, particularly where local influence and support is important to reach a specified objective.

Obviously, there is much information and assistance to be gained for the asking. Before asking, however, the decision must be made to identify, as closely as possible, area needs, assets, problems and opportunities, i.e., establish a basis for determining the type of assistance needed, and the agency or commission best suited to the task. Once this is accomplished, agency contacts can be established and determinations made of available aid in relation to specific area needs. The next-and most important-step is action. All of the agency inputs will have value only to the extent they are actually implemented for local and area betterment, or "development".

\*Item 8 is not a statewide activity.

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technical assistance to local planning agencies. The remainder (\$240,780) is allocated for 11 work elements of statewide comprehensive planning. In addition to these funds, HUD will make direct grants to the seven metropolitan planning agencies in Iowa.

"The new grant represents only a slight increase over last year," comments OPP Director Leroy H. Petersen, "so innovative programming will require us to establish hard priorities for the greatest possible bang per buck. We plan to give increased attention this year to the areas of transportation organization, environmental coordination, and rural community development. In addition, we will require our other program areas to increase their already high productivity."

# # # #

REPORT ON FEDERAL GRANTS IN IOWA RELEASED

A *Report on Federal Grants-In-Aid in Iowa Fiscal Year 1970* has been released by OPP. It reports data on the federal funds received by State departments, agencies, boards, and commissions in the form of grants from federal departments. Data by counties includes grants, direct federal payments, and federally-administered projects in the counties. The report also includes a summary of total funds received in Iowa by federal department and Iowa's ranking among states according to funds received from each federal department.

Copies are available in limited number, upon request.

# # # #

A report outlining an economic development program for the State of Iowa was recently completed under a contract awarded by OPP to the Institute of Urban and Regional Research at the University of Iowa. The report, entitled *Iowa State Economic Development Policy Study*, was prepared by Dr. William Albrecht, Dr. Thomas Pogue, and Dr. Jerald Barnard of the Department of Economics, University of Iowa.

Using a broadened definition of income, which includes the value of non-market traded goods, the authors analyze the factors that determine economic development, and what policies the State might adopt to promote economic development. Far reaching recommendations are offered with regard to State and local tax structure, government consolidation, elimination of restrictions on government borrowing, transportation modes, environmental programs, and an economic monitoring system for the State.

Since the report is to be used mainly as a planning aid in the development of a State economic policy a limited number of copies is available from OPP.

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