



Commission Approves Reprogram Package

Reprogramming is a big word that means finding the best ways to spend unspent money.

In the Model Cities process, reprogramming is a regular cycle which takes place when unused money accumulates from various projects.

Even with the most careful budget planning, there are bound to be new situations which could alter a project, or difficulties in getting it under way. Budgets are designed to be as

flexible as possible, especially those of new, innovative projects never tried before.

Some money in the total budget this year has remained unspent by the operating agencies of Model Cities projects. When agencies cannot use funds initially allotted to them, the Model Cities, or City Demonstration Agency, staff totals the available funds and advises the entire Model City Commission.

In reprogramming, the CDA staff studies all the budgets, updates them and revises them if necessary with the consent of the project directors. Where there is a need for more money, a plan for increasing the budget is drawn up for approval. Where there is excess money, the Model City Commission takes the money and finds ways of redistributing it to other projects.

Last year the reprogramming process took place four times. This month

is the first time reprogramming has taken place in this fiscal year, which began August 1.

\$200,000 AVAILABLE

Approximately \$200,000 has accumulated and is available for the January reprogramming. An exact total will be known as soon as the latest budget reports from all of the current 25 projects are in.

At the January 6 meeting of the entire Model City Commission, ten projects were approved to receive funds for the remainder of the year.

These projects, which will be brought before City Council for approval January 20, have gone through the same planning process as other projects approved for the second action year.

Having originated in a task force, they will hopefully meet needs the task forces have identified in the community. Once these projects are passed in City Council, the entire reprogramming package must be presented to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for final approval before going into effect.

The following are projects approved by the Model City Commissioners for the first of possibly two or three re-

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Pocketbook Prophecy: Get Most From Your Paycheck in 1972

What can your pocketbook expect in 1972?

In High Point, the economic picture is somewhat brighter than in other parts of the country. According to the Employment Security Commission, the city had only a 2.8 percent unemployment rate as of November, compared to over 6 percent unemployment nationwide.

Furthermore, labor market analyst Harold E. Hutchinson says that the number of persons employed in High Point's textile industry will go up 2½ percent by the end of March if experienced men and women can be found.

"In this area, we've got almost a tight labor market," said Hutchinson. "Furniture — High Point's major industry — is enjoying a heyday again."

But despite this favorable labor picture, there are several things the wage-earner can do to make sure he stays out of the financial doghouse.

Even though High Point has a low unemployment rate, the hourly earnings for workers in the manufacturing industries in Greensboro-High Point-Winston-Salem is lower than those in other parts of the country, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

So even if a man has a job, he still needs all the help he can get to stretch his pocketbook.

True, the forecast for the first quarter of the new year is good. "From all appearances," says Hutchinson of Employment Security Commission, "we'll not have an adverse economy during the first quarter, through March."

"As best we can tell, furniture is going quite strong, and hosiery is holding its own. We don't foresee any changes . . . but then, none of us know what will happen 30 days from now."

POINTERS OFFERED

To make sure he gets the most from his paycheck, there are several pointers Hutchinson and others in economic counseling have to give the "blue-collar" worker in High Point.

First of all, the more experience and training a man or woman has, the better chance he has first of getting

a job, and then of advancing in pay once he gets it. Many positions in local mills and plants are for trainees, said Hutchinson, which allow a worker to learn a job while he receives a minimum salary.

Comprehensive Manpower Services, a Model Cities program operated by Guilford Technical Institute, also helps workers get skilled training and find jobs afterward. Their offices, located in the Arcade Building at 329 N. Main Street, are open to all persons having employment problems, particularly those without a skill and those in the Model Neighborhood.

Consumer Credit Counseling, another Model Cities program, is open for all persons who are having financial problems. Advice and counseling is available for those who have had trouble getting credit, or managing their money.

Barry Boneno, director of the free counseling service, pointed out several things which could help stretch a family's budget and help them spend their money more wisely.

"Before purchasing a car, these people should see me," said Boneno. "Buying a car is a big step, and very complex, and people should know exactly what they're getting into."

Before buying, one should know the actual purchase price, as well as the separate price for financing, he said.

PLAN AHEAD

Grocery buying can also take too large a slice out of a family's budget if they don't plan menus ahead. Boneno advises that the same member of the family do all the food buying, and have a list before going to the store.

"They should always eat first before they go, too," Boneno suggested. He said that the buyer should always read grocery ads in a newspaper, and not be misled by stores which advertise only a few inexpensive items. The other items in the store, he warned, are not necessarily cheap, too.

When buying such things as meat, Boneno suggested one buy by price of a serving, not by price of a pound.

Installment buying can also ruin a

family's budget. Boneno advised persons buying on credit to know the total cost of the purchase before committing themselves.

The pocketbook of the man-on-the-street might not be any fatter in 1972, but around High Point, chances are good for him at least having a job this year.

And by cutting a few corners, and getting a few helpful tips from those in the know, he may just come out on top.



Photo by Art Richardson

Model Cities helps keep smiles on children's faces.