



CECIL BROWN

Brown To Develop Evaluation System Within City Hall

With the transfer of Cecil A. Brown from the Model Cities staff to the new Community Development Division of the City of High Point, the first step was accomplished in the blending of Model Cities functions into city government.

Brown, information and evaluation specialist for Model Cities since June 1970, assumed his duties as evaluation director of the newly-organized Evaluation and Management Information Section on January 22.

His transfer was formally acted upon by the Model City Commission at its February 1 meeting.

As evaluation director for the City, Brown will also retail his function as I&E director for the Model Cities staff.

In going to City Hall, Brown is expected to develop an information-gathering and evaluation system for the City as it enters the first phase of revenue-sharing and Community Development fund spending.

Revenue sharing is a new funding technique passed in the last session of Congress. One of the stipulations of the federal government in the spending of those monies, and those to be channeled to cities through the proposed Community Development program, is that projects must be evaluated.

Others in the Model Cities I&E Division — actually operated as a project separate from the administrative staff of the agency — are expected to follow Brown eventually to City Hall. The absorption of this function, as well as that of planning, is anticipated as Model Cities phases out its operations in the future.

Brown earned both B.S. and M.S. degrees from A&T State University, Greensboro. Before joining the Model Cities staff, he was project director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps in Guilford County.

Wayne S. Pray, executive director of Model Cities, in speaking about Brown's transfer, said he was "very pleased. This was a planned, logical step that was always envisioned as Model Cities functions were spun off into the city government structure."

Nixon Budget Being Studied

Pray Optimistic Despite Announcement That Model Cities Money To Be Frozen

The \$1.77 million question around High Point these days is "What's going to happen to Model Cities?"

The question naturally arose as a result of the recent announcement by the White House that funds for special projects such as low-income housing, Urban Renewal and Model Cities will be cut off beginning July 1.

It was retiring Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary George Romney who voiced the freeze of funds for these areas during Fiscal Year 1974, which starts July 1.

High Point, whose Model Cities receives an annual \$1.77 million grant from HUD, begins its fiscal years on August 1.

There has been speculation that since High Point's implementation date comes after the cut-off date, the local Model Cities program is in trouble.

The truth is, nobody knows for sure.

Wayne S. Pray, executive director for the Model City Commission, admits that no one has been given official notice about what to expect in the months ahead. What's left, he says, are only "guess-timates."

And until President Nixon's budget, presented at the end of January, is

reviewed, studied and interpreted by HUD officials, the fate of Model Cities programs such as High Point's will remain a mystery.

Pray, however, is optimistic.

He believes that there will be no new money requested for programs such as Urban Renewal and Model Cities in Fiscal Year 1974 (beginning July 1). On the other hand, Congress is expected to approve several special revenue sharing packages, including Community Development, during its current session.

These new enactments would go into effect beginning Fiscal Year 1975 (July 1, 1974).

LEFT-OVER MONEY

In the meantime, Model Cities programs throughout the country whose own fiscal years begin after July 1, 1973 (including High Point), could draw on monies left over from the current Fiscal Year budget.

By that time, 1974, new sources of funds would probably be available through the new revenue sharing bills.

Even though some cutbacks in budgets are almost inevitable, according to Pray, existing appropriations could still sustain those Model Cities

which need money until the new revenue sharing funds start flowing from Washington.

Pray referred to "informal agreements" with the area HUD office in Greensboro, which acts as a liaison between the local Model Cities office and the large Atlanta HUD headquarters. Although no one within the federal department has received official word, it is the feeling of local leaders that there will be money left over from Fiscal Year 1973 (ending June 30, 1973) to fund High Point's Fourth Year Plan at least in part.

Regardless of the level of funding for the Fourth Year Plan, says Pray, "the Model City Commission will continue to develop strategies to spin off the process and our projects."

"We anticipate working closely with City Council so that the Fourth Year budget will support and not overlap High Point's budget and the new revenue sharing budget, which is in the initial stages."

Pray said meetings were already scheduled to brief city officials on the anticipated federal budget reductions once the President's budget is interpreted by Greensboro HUD personnel.

Active Task Force Chairman Lloyd Hughes: Model Cities Good Place To "Clear the Air"

A delightful man with a firm handshake and a big, warm heart has just stepped down as chairman of the Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Task Force.

Lloyd Hughes is his name, and love for people is his motto.

Hughes began his association when Model Cities task forces were organized in 1969.

At the outset, he was interested mainly in housing needs. His activities in this area stemmed from a previous group called Concerned Citizens, which he helped organize to tackle the housing shortage in High Point.

He was shifted from the Housing Task Force to the Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Task Force after a short while, however, because the latter "needed warm bodies, I suppose."

Hughes' support in that area hasn't wavered since.

A partner in the Hughes-Rankin Company, an institutional furnishings supplier, Lloyd Hughes hesitates either to pick favorite projects or to take credit for the development of any of them.

"As chairman, I shouldn't pick out pets," he says, "but if I had to choose, I'd say programs that assist the courts in handling cases involving juvenile delinquents or potential delinquents."

Examples of some of the projects in the area of crime and delinquency are Youth Services Bureau and Youth

Outreach, which gives judges an alternative to sending boys to training school.

"As a task force, we've only surveyed, expressed interest, and approved projects before they're sent on the Commission," he explains

PROFESSIONAL HELP

Hughes says his task force has always enjoyed "excellent staff support, which we couldn't do without." Social planner Gloria Haynes, who works directly with the group, has been helpful, always informed, and keenly interested — a professional, according to Hughes. "She is a very

necessary part of the task force. We lean on her."

Hughes is resigning as chairman "because I'm tired. But I intend to remain as a part of the task force," he goes on.

What does he feel is the role of the task force in the community?

"Well, I believe a task force could be assertive and instrumental in furthering programs, but they don't always do this. A task force could be strong. . . . But those on a task force are not always the ones who need to be involved, or who can

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LLOYD HUGHES