



Metropolitan Area Planning Council

44 School Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Executive Director

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January 4, 1977

For the sixth consecutive year, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council has prepared a report detailing the amount and type of financial assistance allocated by the federal government to local and regional development proposals scheduled for implementation within the 101 communities of the Boston metropolitan area. Enclosed is a copy of that report entitled Funding of Local and Regional Development, Fiscal Year 1976.

The MAPC is the regional planning agency for the three million citizens living in the 101 communities of eastern Massachusetts. Since its creation in 1963, the Council has served to reinforce the local governments of the metropolitan area through effective and efficient regional planning and technical assistance. The MAPC has prepared numerous areawide plans and programs aimed at the resolution of regional problems in the areas of water quality management, solid waste disposal, transportation, housing, land use and open space/recreation. The Council works in the additional capacity of areawide clearinghouse for applications for federal assistance projects proposed for the region. Our advisory role as clearinghouse assures that federal dollars earmarked for metropolitan Boston are supportive of local and regional development goals.

At the time the report was written, the MAPC District had received nearly \$122.8 million in federal awards. Since then some funding agencies have announced further grant allocations. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development released a total of \$1,452,000 in Community Development Metropolitan Discretionary monies for sixteen area communities. Another \$278,000 was awarded by HUD to the City of Boston to promote public information strategies in support of neighborhood preservation. In nearly every case, the Council was able to provide valuable input aimed at improving these applications. With the continued cooperation and assistance of our member communities, the Council intends to utilize our clearinghouse function to contribute to the region's orderly growth and development.

Finally, the report attempts to analyze potential sources for federal funds for fiscal 1977. The change from the current Administration will obviously have an affect on programs and

appropriations forthcoming. One important piece of legislation vital to A-95 clearinghouses will be reintroduced during the next session of Congress. If the Intergovernmental Coordination Act is passed by Congress, the Council anticipates that intergovernmental reviews such as now carried out under A-95 will receive direct funding for the first time. Such a move would allow the Council to better serve our cities and towns through an updated and streamlined A-95 process.

The Council welcomes any questions or comments you may have regarding this report.

Comm. from Metropolitan Area Planning Council transmitting annual report detailing the amount and type of financial assistance allocated by the Federal Government to cities and towns.

In City Council,

Feb. 28, 1977

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