

pens to hold it. I realize this, and therefore it is with sincere humility that I shall direct my brief remarks to this august and distinguished audience, a majority of whom have played vital roles and been deeply involved in the realization of this day.

As Governor of the State of Maryland, I am honored and proud to represent the citizens of our State on this occasion. As an individual, who happens to be the Governor of Maryland at this time, I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to be, even in a small way, directly involved in the creation of a city — to participate in the realization of this phenomenon we call Columbia.

For, as an individual, I have followed the development of Columbia almost since its inception, over four years ago, with an interest which I believe typified that of the average citizen; a fascination which combined deep admiration for Mr. Rouse's aspiration with a ruthlessly pragmatic curiosity to see if such an awesome project could ever progress off the drawing boards! I was perhaps more informed than the casual spectator, as I watched Mr. Rouse's first encounter with the officials of Howard County — due to experience as a member of the Board of Appeals, Baltimore County's zoning authority and what was then my vantage point as Baltimore County Executive.

Consequently, the cooperation which followed the initial, and quite natural, combat was regarded by me as nothing short of phenomenal. The ability of the public and private sectors to work efficiently and effectively together to assure that zoning and land use would be directed toward the realization of a comprehensive, planned community demands special recognition. For if either partner had faltered or failed in the complete and unresolved disposition of its obligations, the totality and the purity of this project could have been destroyed.

The scope of Columbia is at once so extensive and yet so comprehensive that one can only marvel at the sensitive coalition of details that have been balanced to create this community. Columbia exemplifies the generosity, the imagination and the ability of private enterprise, which has planned extensive accommodations to fulfill a diversified spectrum of human needs and still has taken the interest and care to preserve fifty acres of woodlands so as not to disrupt the courtship of racoons.

Columbia shall be the culmination of one man's confidence that private enterprise can plan and construct a total city from a blueprint of "how people ought to live if you could do it all over again" — and do it at a profit; a city which offers homes and employment and