

and diplomatic genius of Mayor McKeldin. His administration was heir to massive problems and in eight years has achieved massive progress.

Yet, this is not a time for complacency — it is the moment for capitalization. We must continue to build responsibly and imaginatively upon the fine foundation provided by the McKeldin administration.

Urbanologist Daniel Patrick Moynihan claims that the single greatest problem confronting America today is the problem of our cities — and in this case, I couldn't agree with him more. Our national, state and local interest must focus upon that one percent of American land where seventy percent of our citizens reside. If we are to promote our prosperity, to direct our destiny, to preserve our civil peace, we must concentrate our energy, talent and resources to regenerate our cities.

While this is true for the nation in general, it is even more true for the State of Maryland and City of Baltimore in particular. Two great cities intensely affect the growth and progress of our State. Almost one-third of Maryland's citizens reside in the environs of the *District of Columbia*, a city outside our control. Fifty-seven percent of Maryland's citizens reside within Baltimore City and its surrounding counties. Here we can and must exercise initiative and control. Over twenty-five percent of Maryland's citizens live within the City's limits and the great majority of Baltimore's suburban residents look to the City for their livelihood. The prosperity and fulfillment of these citizens depend upon the revitalization and progress of *Baltimore City*.

The State is acutely aware of Baltimore's importance and impact upon the welfare of Maryland. The 1967 fiscal reform program granted to the City twice the additional revenue that it collected from its residents. As a result the City gained a total exceeding \$29 million additional indirect State aid or the equivalent of a 95¢ (per \$100 assessed valuation) increase in the City's property tax. In recognition of the City's escalating crime rate over \$9 million in additional State funds was allocated to the Baltimore Police Department. In recognition of critical educational problems over \$20 million in additional State funds was poured into the City's school system, and a single special grant of \$5 million was provided to rehabilitate or replace antiquated City schools. Other State efforts have and will be made to expedite the development of the City's rapid transit system, to purify the City's air and waters, to institute retraining and area re-development programs.