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Record Group/Collection: Donated Historical Materials
Collection/Office of Origin: Frieden, Lex, Collection
Series: Disability Rights Organizations
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 52053
Folder ID Number: 52053-010

Folder Title:
CBFL [Coalition for Barrier Free Living] Building Correspondence [1978-1979]

Stack:

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HOUSTON
TEXAS

JIM McCONN
MAYOR

June 8, 1979

Mr. Lex Freiden
105 Drew
Houston, Texas 77006

Dear Mr. Freiden:

Ken Bitz has visited with me concerning the Houston Center for the Handicapped. We discussed the need for additional funding and I will see if there are other funds available.

I personally feel that a project of this nature deserves a priority and will do all I can to assist in it's completion and operation.

Sincerely,

Connie B. Williams
Executive Assistant
to the Mayor

dee

cc: Ken Bitz



CITY of HOUSTON

FRANK O. MANCUSO

Councilman

DISTRICT E

EIGHTH FLOOR
CITY HALL

March 9, 1979

Lex Frieden
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden:

Thank you for sending me a set of materials describing the plans for a community center for handicapped individuals.

I will certainly give it every consideration on approving plans for the center, when it is brought up before Council.

Sincerely,

Frank O. Mancuso
Councilman

FOM:lf

HOUSTON METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

3217 Montrose - Suite 200

Houston, Texas 77006

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March 16, 1979

Joyce Frieden, President
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Joyce:

Houston Metropolitan Ministries wholeheartedly endorses your efforts to build a Center for the Disabled in Houston, and we encourage the City Council to approve funding for this measure.

As you know, our agency has long been interested in the needs of the handicapped, and we believe this center will greatly contribute to their personal, economic, and social lives. Many of the services which will be offered are presently not available in Houston.

In addition to meeting the needs of a much-neglected segment of our community, such a facility will significantly enhance our city's status as a leader in the areas of innovation and social service delivery.

We pledge our support in this matter, and encourage you to see this project to its completion.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick



United Way



THE EASTER SEAL SOCIETY
FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS OF HARRIS COUNTY

P. O. BOX 13399 • 3630 WEST DALLAS • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019 • 713/526-1651

LAWRENCE P. RAGER, JR., Executive Director • MONTY NELSON, Assistant Executive Director

March 20, 1979

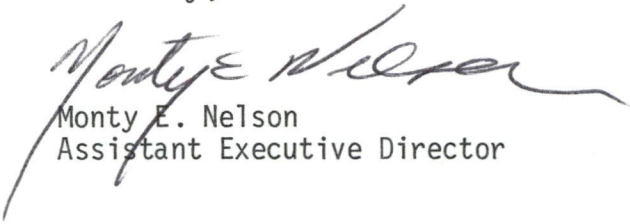
The Coalition for Barrier
Free Living
Post Office Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

The Harris County Easter Seal Society fully endorses the plan for a Center for Handicapped persons in Houston. There is a great need for a central clearinghouse operation to research needs and provide pertinent information to handicapped people of all disabilities.

The Center should provide legal, financial and increased recreational opportunities to handicapped people of this community.

We are confident that a great service can be performed by such a Center if careful planning and input is sought from all segments of the rehabilitation community, including schools, agencies, consumers and parents.

Sincerely,


Monty E. Nelson
Assistant Executive Director

MEN/tr

Center for the Retarded

INCORPORATED

3550 West Dallas
P.O. Box 13403
Houston, Texas 77019
Phone: AC (713) 528-6371

March 19, 1979

Frank A. Borreca, Ed. D.
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Mr. Lex Frieden
Chairman
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P. O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden:

Our agency has worked closely with the members of the Coalition for Barrier Free Living to develop needed services for our handicapped citizens of Houston.

Your most recent project to establish a Center for the Handicapped in Houston is highly commendable. Such a facility will enable our disabled citizens to acquire the skills necessary for greater independence and productivity.

We understand that the funds necessary to develop this project have been approved and are incorporated into the City of Houston's Community Development plans, pending the approval of the City Council.

Be assured that our Agency will cooperate with you in every respect and strongly endorse this very needed and important project.

Sincerely,



Frank A. Borreca, Ed. D.
Executive Director

j1





UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY
OF TEXAS GULF COAST, Inc.

9545 Katy Freeway Suite 275
Houston, Texas 77024
Phone 461-6269

March 16, 1979

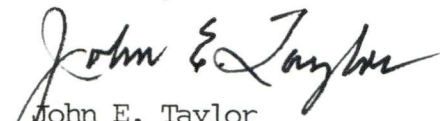
Mr. Lex Frieden
% Coalition of Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden,

Please add this agency's endorsement to your application for a center for the handicapped here in Houston. In our estimation the need is severe and is long overdue for a City of this size.

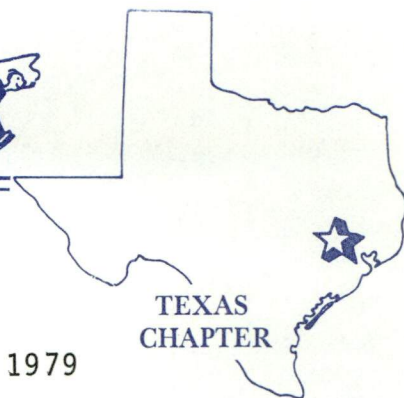
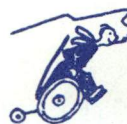
The handicapped have long been neglected and, in our opinion, a center will bring focus to the need and objectives for these people who have been ignored in the past.

Sincerely,


John E. Taylor
Executive Director

Paralyzed Veterans Of America

3217 MONTROSE, SUITE 112 · HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006
1-713-526-1952



March 26, 1979

Lex Friedan, Chairperson
Center Planning Committee
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, TX 77025

Dear Mr. Friedan,

The Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association, an organization representing spinal cord injured and diseased veterans throughout the state of Texas strongly endorses the proposed Center for the Handicapped.

This center will touch on the many areas that the present service delivery system in the Houston area is lacking. Though the final program mix has yet to be decided, the basic proposal program mix will meet many of the needs of the disabled veterans in Houston.

The Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association would potentially be able to utilize space in the Center for programs we are now in the process of developing.

TPVA will assist the planning committee in any way possible to make the center become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bob Kafka".

Bob Kafka
Executive Director
TPVA

BK:pf



*a paraplegic
is an individual...*



Rice Vending Inc.
Executive Offices
2425 Campbell Road
Houston, Texas 77026
468-5511

March 13, 1979

Mr. Lex Frieden
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden:

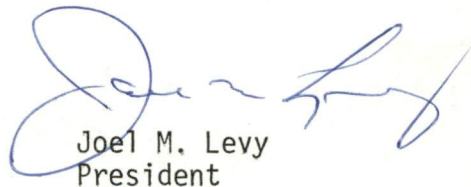
I have been in touch with Nita Weil who has informed me of the great work that is being done by the Coalition for Barrier Free Living. I am in full accord with your planning processes and feel that the handicapped should be a prime concern of the citizens of our community.

I was formerly president of the Jewish Community Center and at the time of building, and even today, every means of devices were put in to assist the handicapped. This group is a very vital part of our community and cannot be discarded.

I fully support your plan and if I can be of any benefit to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. We urge your committee to move forward with great speed to assist this communities handicapped citizens.

Sincerely,

RICE VENDING, INC.

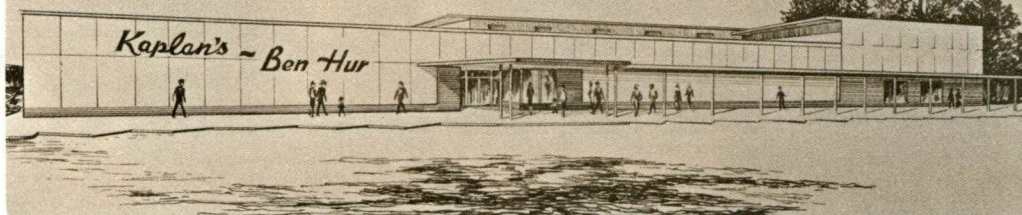


Joel M. Levy
President

JML/k

Kaplan's • Ben Hur

2125 Yale at 22nd St.
Post Office Box 7466
Houston, Texas 77008



Your Shopping Wonderland
March 14, 1979

Mr. Lex Frieden
C.B.F.L.
P. O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden:

I congratulate you on your efforts to establish a Center for Handicapped people.

I am aware of the great need for such a facility and wish to add my voice to help. Not knowing exactly how I can assist, in my limited way, I offer my support.

Very truly yours,

Bennett Kaplan
Bennett Kaplan
BK/aw

HOUSTON METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

3217 MONTROSE-SUITE 200

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

(713) 522-3955 / 522-1045

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March 16, 1979

Joyce Frieden, President
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Tx. 77025

Dear Joyce:

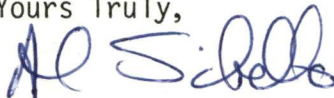
I want you to know that I stand behind you and the Coalition 100% in your attempt to gain final approval of the funds to build a Center for the Disabled in Houston. Please let me know what I can do to bring about this very important action.

I'm very proud of the role VISTA volunteers have taken in the planning and development of this project, and I'm confident that these long months of work will not go unrewarded.

You can count on the continued support of VISTA volunteers and the entire VISTA program at Houston Metropolitan Ministries.

The proposed center will be an extremely valuable addition to the lives of the numerous handicapped individuals in Houston. It will provide services and resources which, in the past, have been available only to the able-bodied. This discrepancy needs to be changed, and I know that the center will be an important first step in the process of allowing the disabled to live more productive and independent lives.

Yours Truly,



Al Sibello

VISTA Supervisor



United Way



TEXAS TREATMENT CENTER FOR AUTISM

A TEXAS NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

1011 COLQUITT - HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006 - 713/522-5719

March 19, 1979

Mr. Lex Frieden
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Mr. Frieden:

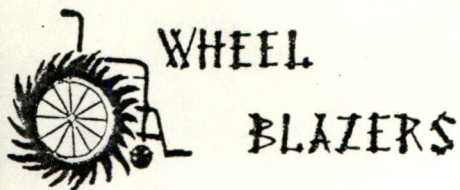
We have followed the proposed center for the Handicapped with great interest and have been encouraged at the steady progress made in bringing this concept into being. Those of us who have been involved in this area for some time recognize the great need for such a multipurpose center and view it's creation as a proper and worthy place for the expenditure of public funds.

I especially commend your group for the enlightened commitment to make the proposed center barrier free for everyone; that in terms of physical access, use, programs and governance, it will be equally open to all handicapped persons and groups.

Please know that you have our support in this effort and that we are prepared to help in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

James E. Clark
Director



WHEEL BLAZERS
Honorary Members of Houston
Square Dance Council

March 21, 1979

The Coalition for Barrier Free Living
Post Office Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77025

The Wheel Blazers Square Dance Club fully endorses the Center for Handicapped in Houston. There is a great need for such a place, for the handicapped to be able to have a central meeting place.

The Wheel Blazers are willing to offer any help and support for such a Center as this one.

Sincerely,

Devalca White
Wheel Blazers Vice-President

DW:vr



goodwill INDUSTRIES

5200 JENSEN DRIVE • P.O. BOX 21185 • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77026 • (713) 692-6221

A Modern Rehabilitation Center Featuring Evaluation, Training, Extended Employment & Placement for Handicapped
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*Life Member

March 9, 1979

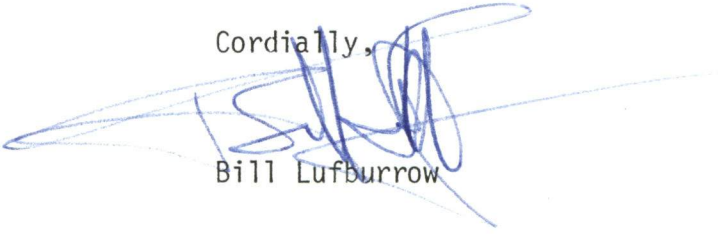
Mr. Lex Frieden
New Options Project
Texas Institute of
Rehabilitation and Research
105 Drew Road
Houston, Texas 77006

Dear Lex,

I want to add my comments to other comments you are receiving about the proposed Center. We are certainly aware of the fact that such a building is needed in and around Houston. There are so many great things going on in Houston for handicapped and disabled people, but the idea of having a central Center seems to put the icing on the cake. We are all looking forward to working with you on it in every way that we can as the time approaches, and I will look forward to hearing from you concerning those things that we can do to help.

Best wishes!

Cordially,


Bill Lufburrow

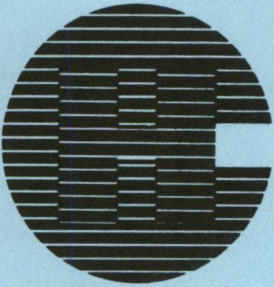
BL/srp

Goodwill also operates Independence Hall
293 luxury apartments for handicapped people

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CRISIS HOTLINE
P. O. Box 4123
Houston, Texas 77210
713/228.1505

March 16, 1979

Mr. Lex Frieden
C.B.F.S.
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, Texas 77027

Dear Mr. Frieden,

We understand that you are proposing a center which will offer social, economic and legal services. We would like to let you know that we stand behind you in this matter. There is a definite need in the community for these services and we sincerely hope that your endeavors are successful. If we can be of any service, please call us.

Cordially,

Joan Morgenstern
Coordinator of Volunteer Services

JEM:jb



A United Way Service



**Cerebral Palsy
Treatment Center
of Harris County, Inc.**

1415 California • Houston, Texas 77006

713/522-1051

March 27, 1979

Mary Ellen Heitzer
Coalition for Barrier Free Living
P. O. Box 20803
Houston, Tx 77025

Dear Ms Heitzer:

Even though your letter arrived past the March 21 hearing I would like to offer our support in a Center for the handicapped. There is a need for such a center especailly in the adult area. As you know, our program is undergoing a tremendous change at present. At the end of this school year, we will phase out all services for children of legal school age. This will enable us to develop a quality program for the motorically handicapped child below 3 years of age as well as services to the parents of these children. I would think there is a real possibility in the integration of some services, especially in the areas of financial, legal and recreational.

Please keep us informed on your progress and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Beaty
RLB/bh

Copy: Bob Kafka, Chairman, Program Sub-Committee

☐ Special Education

☐ Therapy

Physical
Occupational
Communication
Recreation

☐ Evaluations

Rehabilitative
Medicine
Ophthalmological
Psychological
Therapeutic

☐ Social Service



SOUTHWEST WHEELCHAIR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 20803 HOUSTON, TX 77025

March 26, 1979

Lex Friedan, Chairperson
Center Planning Committee
P.O. Box 20803
Houston, TX 77025

Dear Mr. Friedan,

The Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association welcomes the opportunity to endorse the proposed Center for the Handicapped.

There are many programs that our organization would like to pursue but have been stymied by the lack of accessible recreational facilities in the Houston area.

There is an increasing interest and participation in wheelchair athletics, and this need must be met.

One area of particular interest and of the greatest need is a swimming pool complex that can be utilized effectively by individuals in wheelchairs or others with mobility limitations.

The proposed center will meet many of the needs of those in our organization.

We will assist your effort in any way we can.



Bob Kafka
President
SWAA



HANDICAPPED OF TEXAS, INC.

P.O. BOX 1144

SPRING, TEXAS 77373

March 20, 1979

Dear C. B. F. L.:

I wish to express, on behalf of our entire club, that we fully support the idea of a CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED. It is greatly needed in Houston. Handicapped Of Texas will be one of many organizations that will utilize such a facility.

We are very hopeful that "A Center" will be a reality in the near future. A building of this kind would provide a 'meeting area' for us that has convenient and accessible entry...which is difficult, normally, for us to attain.

Please advise us if there is anyone, or group, that we could encourage (through correspondence) to further promote this CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED. It is a wonderful and necessary endeavor.

We are totally supportive of the idea. Thank you for your time and generous efforts pertaining to this special program.

Sincerely,

Paige W. Bird
Corresponding Secretary
HANDICAPPED OF TEXAS
4605 University Oaks
Houston, Texas 77004

P. S. Please make note of this current mailing address (above) we are now using.

Handicapped speakers make their point

By GEORGE FLYNN
Post Reporter

The ears were deaf but the eyes were listening when a community development hearing in Houston City Council chambers turned from handicapped neighborhoods to handicapped bodies this week.

The sight of silent shouting to be heard, and wheelchair maneuvering to the speaker's stand, appeared to have a noticeable impact on city councilmen evaluating the projected \$76.7-million federal funding package for reforms.

A Wednesday session began with a man quietly reversing his chair, back to the council table, and waiting for the gavel to bring the meeting to order.

As the first speaker began, his words — but not the noise — were repeated by the seated man with highly exaggerated mouth and facial expressions.

His audience was a small section of the crowd of 200,

intently following the exchanges by reading his lips.

Another interpreter, Carol Taylor of the 700 block of Rutland, assisted with sign language.

The hearing moved on for longer than an hour, with some 30 residents taking councilmen on a verbal route through their depressed communities. Each had similar problems of drainage, poor streets and decay which funding would improve, they said.

Every phase uttered moved through the twisting faces and flickering hands of the interpreters and on to those watching. Speakers' animation would occasionally spark smiles on those with hearing, and seconds later the understanding grins of the deaf would follow.

Then their turn came, with pleas for the City Council to endorse the budgeted plans for a community center for the handicapped.

"These people are starved," said Van Gunn of the 1800 block of McDuffie, who had been assisting with the

lip reading. "They are tired and frustrated — agencies can't give them the decent help they need.

"Think about that handicap that nobody sees."

Gunn was raised by deaf parents and told of increasing frustration in trying to answer the questions and aid those without hearing.

Dr. Ralph Guertin, a member of the State Commission for the Deaf, lost his hearing at age 7. He said it was vital that the handicapped have a place to congregate, and Guertin spoke of the loneliness of even parties with regular conversation.

"Do you realize a deaf person can be alone, even in a room full of people?" he asked.

Carol Taylor said services for the deaf are so scattered it took her a year to get the proper contacts for assistance for friends. "I refused to believe what was happening," she added.

Joining them were wheelchair-bound persons of the Coalition for Barrier Free Living.

with council

Bob Geyer urged councilmen to continue improvements which began with some wheelchair ramps and better accessibility on the transit system. Those blind, deaf or otherwise impaired are estimated to be about 10 percent of the population, he said.

The speakers and other handicapped persons began their efforts for a community center in the initial planning stages for the next three years of funding for community development.

The proposal calls for \$3 million to be spent for a community building to be located in the area of Montrose, Hermann Park or Binz. It would contain educational, office, recreational and meeting space. They would like it to also include model living areas where the handicapped can be trained to live in independent settings.

The City Council is studying the proposed budget and must pass or revise it within a month for submittal to Washington.

INTERIM PLANNING REPORT
FOR THE
HOUSTON CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED

JANUARY 17, 1979

INTRODUCTION

The Coalition for Barrier Free Living (CBFL) proposes to establish a Center for the Handicapped in Houston. This report describes the purpose and plans for the Center, and documents progress on the project to date.

HISTORY

The CBFL is a non-profit advocacy organization representing disabled people in Houston, Texas (a detailed description of CBFL is attached). Recognizing the need to have a multi-service center where handicapped people could meet, socialize, recreate, exchange information, obtain heretofore unavailable or difficult to access services, and develop new service delivery methods, representatives of CBFL met with representatives of the City of Houston Community Development Division on September 29, 1977 to discuss the need for a Center for the Handicapped. Community Development Block Grant funds were authorized to establish Centers for the Handicapped under the U. S. Housing Authorization Act of 1976 (see attached notice and rules). On December 13, 1977, the Director of the Houston C. D. Division, Edwin Becnel, requested that CBFL submit a written proposal to his department by January 15, 1978. CBFL delivered the desired proposal (see attached proposal), and following approval by the C. D. Commissioners in early 1978, it was incorporated into the proposed long range C. D. plan for Houston.

Public hearings on the plan were conducted by City Council on March 14 and 15, 1978. Disabled citizens representing various organizations and directors of several local rehabilitation programs urged the Council to approve that section of the plan which would set aside \$3 million for the Center (see attached clippings). On May 17, 1978, City Council approved the plan and sent it to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which granted it final approval on July 31, 1978.

~~PRESENT STATUS~~

PRESENT STATUS

Although the Center has been approved in long range plans, it must be approved again before funds can actually be spent on the project beginning August 1, 1979. In order to refine the proposal so that it may be approved for funding as soon as possible, CBFL suggested the appointment of a Center Planning Committee to make specific recommendations regarding the proposal. Mr. Becnel officially appointed this committee on August 16, 1978, and the committee has been working since then to sharpen plans for the Center. Meetings of the full committee were held on September 6, October 12, November 30, 1978 and January 17, 1979. Twenty persons representing various groups of handicapped people, several city departments, local rehabilitation agencies and centers, possible ongoing funding sources, and others have attended these meetings (see attached list). The full committee has appointed four sub committees to work on specific aspects of the project. These committees are: Site Selection, Program Mix, Legal Issues, and Budgeting and Finances. Each sub committee chairperson belongs to the

full committee and reports to that committee. In addition to the committee members, advice and consultation has frequently been sought from professionals in various fields including real estate, law, building management, engineering, construction, architecture, urban planning, sociology, government, and fundraising. Also, staff persons from both C.D.D. and CBFL have been assigned to support this planning effort and have contributed to the project by surveying other centers to gather pertinent information, by researching available literature, by documenting committee activities, and by maintaining liason between committee members and other interested persons. Faculty members and students from the Colleges of Architecture at both Rice University and the University of Houston have produced design models for the Center which will be used to shape final plans for construction of the building if that alternative is chosen (see attached design proposals).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The various committees have made several important recommendations relating to the proposed Center. These are summarized below.

A. Regarding the site

1. The location must be near METRO routes and easily accessible to existing freeway system.
2. A centralized location is preferred.
3. The location should be within walking distance of commercial establishments such as drug stores, restaurants, grocery stores, or convenience stores.

- 4... 4. Renovation of suitable existing facilities would be an acceptable alternative to new construction.
5. Solicitation of grant funds or donations may be necessary to secure earnest money to purchase a site if one is located before August 1, 1979.

B. Regarding legal issues

1. An outright direct grant from C. D. to the operators of the Center for purchasing or building the Center is preferable to the other alternatives.
2. A trusteeship or board should be set up to operate the Center.
3. Letters of intent to use the facilities should be solicited from proposed provider agencies.
4. A new, non-profit, tax exempt corporation should be formed to secure C. D. funds to build on or buy and renovate the Center and to operate it.

5. An outright direct grant from C. D. would absolve the City of continued responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Center unless the grantee/operators failed to maintain the facilities.

C. Regarding programs and services

1. A mixture of services should be planned both to cut across several disability groups, and to meet individual needs of specific disability groups.
2. Scheduling of program activities must involve considerations related to mixing groups of people with different and possibly incompatible disability types.
3. The Center board should be controlled by handicapped

individuals to insure maximum consumer participation and self direction.

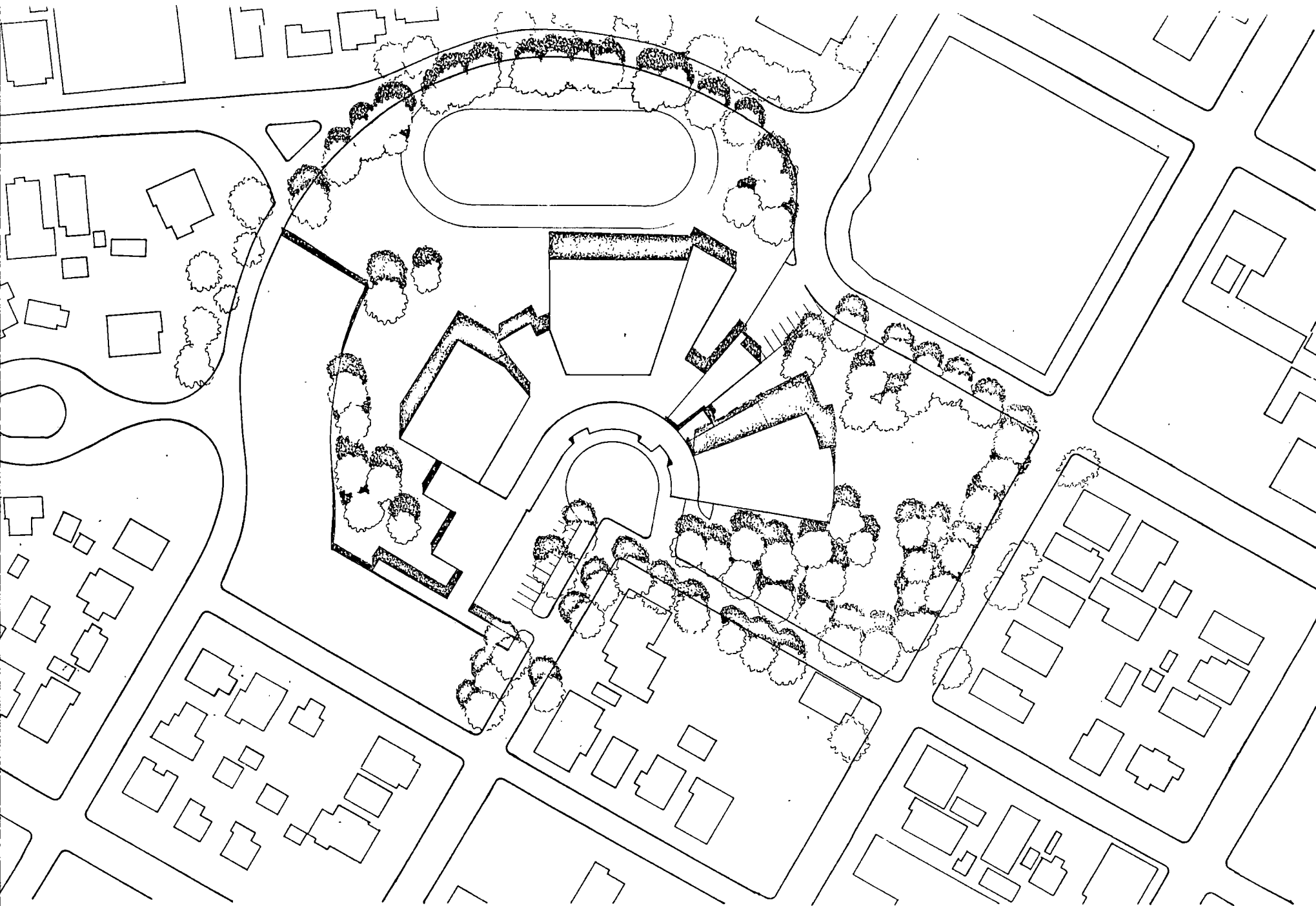
D. Regarding budgeting and finances

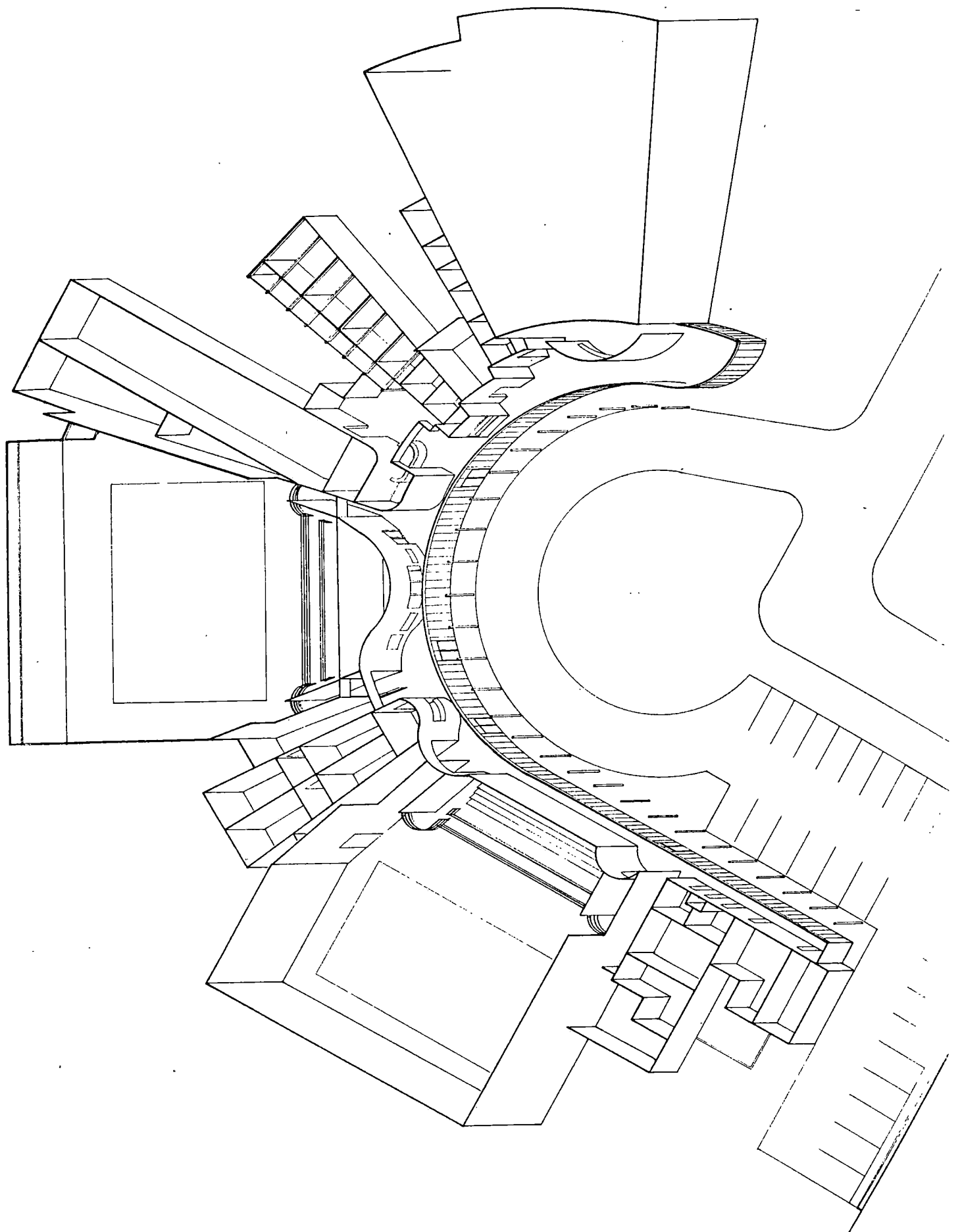
1. A well chosen board will be needed to insure continued operation of the Center.
2. Space rental fees charged to agencies and providers leasing space in the Center should be the primary source of income to offset operating and maintenance expenses.
3. Grants from public and private agencies and foundations should be sought to supplement income received from space rental fees, and to develop and support needed services or programs which are not available through other providers.
4. Donations may need to be sought to supplement income from other sources.
5. United Fund should be considered a primary source of continued funding for the Center.
6. A conservative evaluation of space needs should be made and used to avoid having unused space and high overhead expenses.
7. Public owned lands should seriously be investigated as possible sites for the Center so that available funds may be conserved for construction.

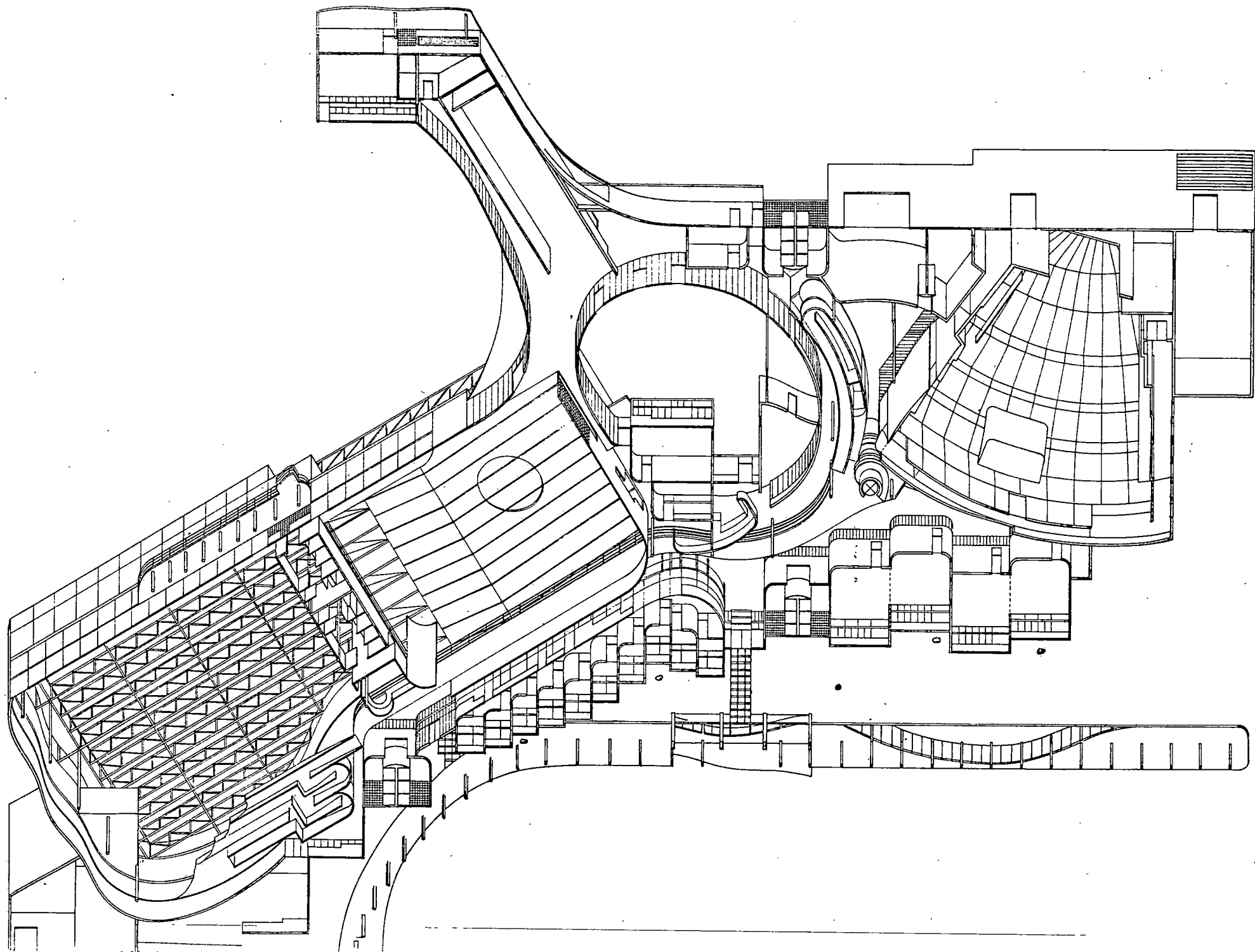
NEXT STEPS

In order to obtain final approval of the Center by City Council and thus secure August 1, 1979 funding from C. D., the

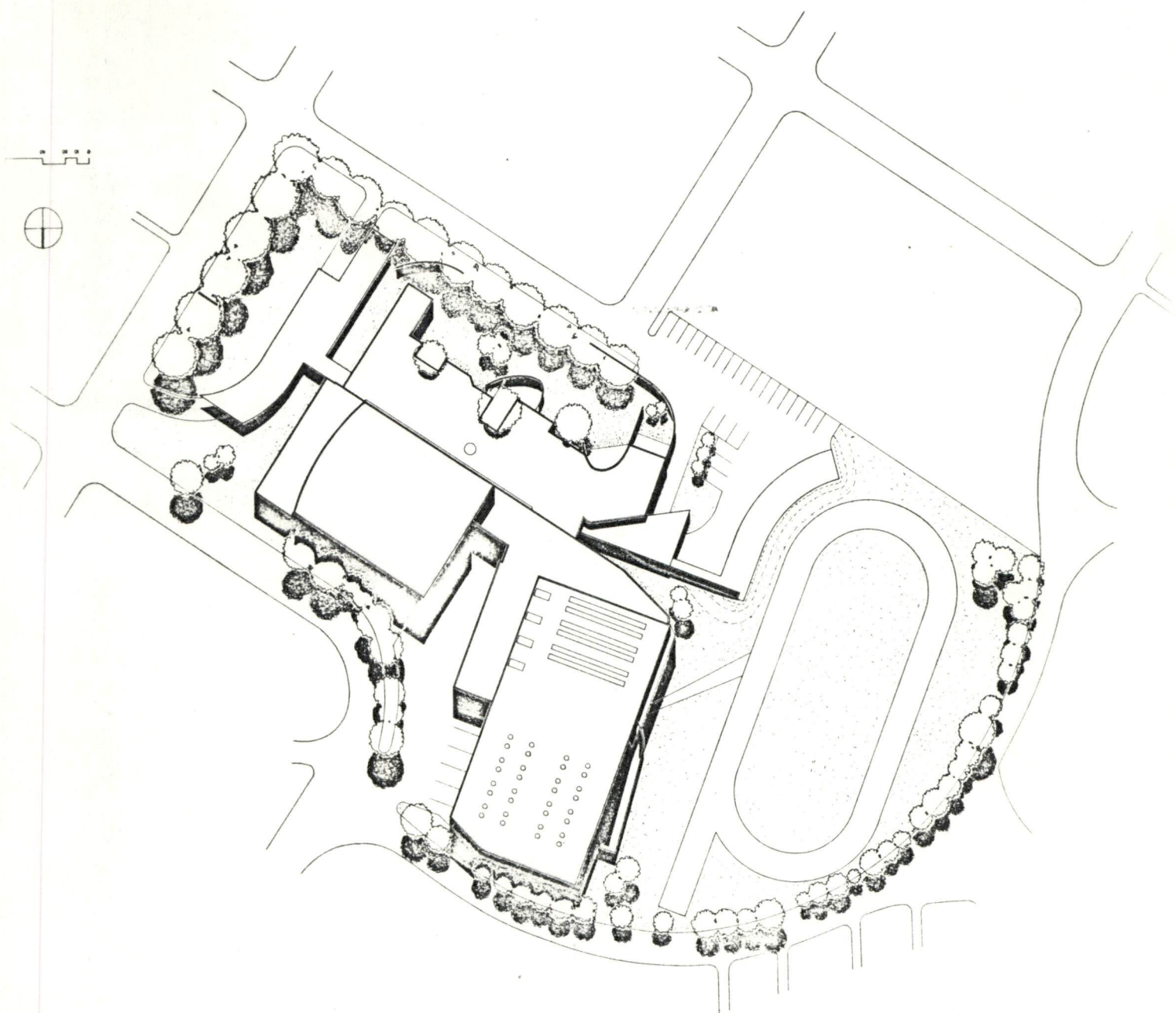
existing proposal is being updated and refined according to the planning committee recommendations. CBFL representatives are presently in the process of forming a new non-profit, tax exempt corporation to receive funds for and manage the Center. This corporation shall be called Houston Independent Living Center, Inc. or HILCI. CBFL is also in the process of soliciting letters of intent to rent space in the Center and letters of intent to fund programs offered by the Center. The planning committee will continue to meet on an ad hoc basis as necessary, and the sub committees will continue the work they have begun. A site must be located as soon as possible. Services must be further defined and planned. Funding proposals must be developed and circulated. HILCI must begin functioning and should consider hiring an Executive Director to implement plans for the Center in an efficient, timely, and organized fashion.







CBFL
P. ROMANETTI



PROPOSAL FOR A HOUSTON
CENTER FOR BARRIER FREE LIVING

Prepared by the Coalition
for Barrier Free Living

CENTER FOR BARRIER FREE LIVING

STATEMENT OF NEED:

The U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare estimates that one out of every eleven Americans has a substantial degree of mobility impairment due to physical or mental handicaps. U.S. Census figures for 1970 indicated that over 96,000 persons residing within Harris County and between the ages of 16 and 60 were classified as totally disabled.

This large population suffers from one of the highest unemployment rates of any job-ready group in the United States. Because current forms of mass transit (except the new and extremely limited PICK-ME-UP bus service) are inaccessible to severely handicapped people, a chronic lack of transport has helped create the high rate of joblessness. Social attitudes and physical barriers combine with lack of transport and unemployment to raise formidable obstacles for substantially handicapped people who hope to live in mainstream Houston society.

While there are a number of institutions and groups dealing with various aspects of this situation, there is no facility or agency that integrates social, psychological, legal, financial, and transport services for disabled people. There are no recreational centers in Houston designed for the disabled, no public pools in which they can swim, and no accessible public social center in which they can congregate.

In addition, we believe that the people who understand best the needs of the disabled are disabled people themselves. This proposed center, through a board of directors in which disabled people are in the majority, will be run by and for disabled people—the physically disabled, the deaf, and the blind. On the following pages we will detail proposed building features, services, preferred locations, and management arrangements for a center to serve the needs of the disabled citizens of Houston.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Attendant referral, training, and matching program to place trained, competent attendants with disabled persons who require attendant services in order to lead independent lives. At present handicapped persons in Houston have no such resource for obtaining the services of qualified attendants.

2. Social functions. At present handicapped people have no facility available for meetings, social affairs, or recreation. One important aspect of the center would be its role as a social focus for the Houston handicapped community.

3. Financial advocacy- Counselors would provide information to disabled people on the hows and wheres of local, state, federal and private financial and medical assistance programs.

4. Legal advocacy- Free legal aid and counseling concerning legislation in the areas of equal employment, the right to an appropriate education, and the removal of architectural barriers. The director of such a program could be either a lawyer or a trained organizer who would organize volunteer legal services. Another alternative would be to have an existing legal advocacy program establish an office at the center dealing exclusively in legal counseling for the disabled.

5. Peer counseling- Counselors with the experience of living with a disability counsel other disabled persons. Discussion and consciousness-raising groups allow disabled people, their mates and relatives to share experiences and discuss problems.

6. Health maintenance- Classes and peer groups emphasize personal health care. Preventive medicine has a high priority for disabled people because of their vulnerability to skin and respiratory infection and bowel and bladder complications.

7. Free apartment and real estate locator service to assist in pinpointing accessible housing.

8. Transport services- Although this service could have almost unlimited possibilities (Berkeley Center for Independent Living has a van fleet) initially it will be a service to bring center activity participants to and from their places of work and residence. A van with a wheel chair lift and a simple two-way dispatching system could be the first acquisition.

9. Daycare Facility- A program to provide daycare for handicapped children and the children of handicapped parents.
10. Equipment repair classes. An instructor will teach disabled persons how to maintain their equipment and make minor repairs. A costs only repair service could also be run out of the center.

PROPOSED BUILDING FEATURES

1. Recreational Facilities

Gymnasium

- A. Swimming pool with lift and ramping
- B. Basketball court (full length for wheelchair basketball, one of the most popular wheelchair team games.)
- C. Self supervised physical therapy area with equipment.
- D. Bowling alley, utilizing donated equipment and lanes.

Outdoor Recreational Area

- A. A play area for disabled children featuring playground equipment designed for handicapped use.
- B. Picnic area featuring tables high enough for wheelchairs to roll under and grills for cooking.
- C. Outdoor track area for wheelchair track events

Indoor Games Room

A games room to be fitted with computer games modified for use by severely handicapped persons.

2. Office Space

- A. Six medium size offices for center director, CBFL, Freewheeling (with adjoining darkroom), and programs to be run out of the center.

3. Classrooms and meeting rooms.

- A. At least four large classrooms which can be subdivided into smaller work and study areas by the use of sliding partitions.
- B. A large room to be fitted out as a library-study area for center workers and participants.
- C. A snack bar area outfitted with cafeteria tables. This should be adjacent to the kitchen area.

4. Auditorium

A 500 seat auditorium with sloping floor leading down to an accessible stage. A combination of fixed seating, temporary chairs, and open spaces for wheelchair occupancy should be built into the design. This facility will be used for concerts, movies, large meetings, and conventions. It, like many of the other features of this center, have never been available in Houston before.

- 5. Kitchen area- A totally accessible kitchen area with cooking, storage, and refrigeration equipment designed for use by the disabled.

6. Model living areas for use in programs to teach newly disabled persons to live in independent settings. (Optional)

Since the center already contains a totally accessible kitchen, these model living areas would consist of two bedrooms, two bathrooms, and perhaps a joint living room in a suite type arrangement. The living area would feature the most innovative furnishings and designs in barrier free living.

7. Equipment Repair Facilities

A. A self-service equipment room for repair of wheelchairs and other equipment. It would also be a service program area where disabled people could learn to work on their wheelchairs and other equipment. An instructor could make more complicated repairs on a cost-only basis.

B. Van Repair- This service, which would include classes in van and lift maintenance as well as repair, would be housed in a garage facility.

8. Garage

This facility could be built in stages. Initially it should include space for storage of two vans and work areas to accomodate at least two other vans. The design should also allow for substantial future expansion.

9. Covered Parking- This could be built into the facility design in a number of ways. It is a high priority for disabled persons who are exposed to the elements for substantial amounts of time while entering or leaving a vehicle.

PROPOSED BOARD OF DIRECTORS- HOUSTON CENTER FOR
BARRIER FREE LIVING

The Houston Center for Barrier Free Living will be operated by a Board of Directors to consist of 9 individuals.

The Coalition for Barrier Free Living will appoint five members to this board who will meet the following criteria.

1. Active membership in the CBFL
2. Two appointees must be orthopedically impaired.
3. One appointee must be visually impaired.
4. One appointee must be hearing impaired.

The other 4 board members will be selected from other community organizations who have provided services to the handicapped. They will be selected from the following groups:

1. Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research
2. Goodwill Industries
3. Easter Seals
4. United Cerebral Palsy
5. Lighthouse for the Blind
6. MH-MR
7. HARC
8. Muscular Dystrophy Society
9. Multiple Sclerosis

The Board of Directors will be the body which determines all policies concerning the creation and operation of the Houston Center for Barrier Free Living. Each board member will serve for a term of one year. At least five members of the board must be physically disabled.

CENTER LOCATION

Preferred Location

The preferred center location is in an area bounded by Montrose- Bagby-West Gray-West Alabama. This location is located in a developing area just southwest of the downtown area. It is a central location highly accessible to the downtown area, the agency complex along West Dallas serving the handicapped, the Medical Center, the T.I.R.R. annex on Drew Street, and other facilities serving the disabled.

Land values in this area are estimated by local realtors in the \$8-\$10 a square foot range.

Alternate Locations

A. West Dallas near Shepherd - This location is near the complex of agencies serving the handicapped, including Easter Seals, Lighthouse for the Blind, Harris County Center for the Retarded, etc. This area would provide a central location similar to the preferred location. One drawback is that it would contribute to a "ghettoization" effect of clustering services for disabled people.

B. MacGregor in a strip from the Hermann Park area to the University of Houston. This location is near the Medical center, near UH, and offers a physically attractive setting along the bayou.

C. The Binz area just south of downtown and north of Hermann Park. This area is near downtown, the medical center, and with easy access to major freeways. Land values are also relatively inexpensive, with estimates running \$4-\$6 per square foot.

COST AND SPACE ESTIMATES

Cost Estimate - A tentative estimate for this facility would be in the \$3.5-\$4 million dollar range.

Land Estimate- 150,000-200,000 square feet.

Building Space - 40,000- 60,000 square feet.

OPERATIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

The following sources will be utilized in securing operating funds, program sponsors, and program management -

Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research
Easter Seals
Goodwill Industries
Texas Rehabilitation Commission
Foundation grants
Paralyzed Veterans Association
U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
LEAA monies
National Association of the Deaf
Texas State Commission for the Blind
Urban Mass Transit Authority
City of Houston

COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

D. STRATEGY FOR PROVIDING COMMUNITYWIDE PUBLIC
FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTSCENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The Community Development Division in response to the need for a facility for handicapped individuals, has allocated \$3 million in the 5th action year (1979) for a center for the handicapped. The objective of this center is to provide a place where handicapped people can meet, socialize, recreate, exchange information and obtain services. The center will be designed so that people who are deaf, blind, mentally retarded or in wheelchairs can easily access the facility. Furthermore disabled people will be responsible for managing and directing the Center and its programs.

On August 16, 1978, the Community Development Division appointed a Handicapped Center Planning Committee to formulate specific plans for the Center. Persons representing various groups of handicapped people, several city departments, rehabilitation agencies and centers make up the committee. The committee has been investigating several locations to build the center and developing programs and obtaining commitments from specific service providers to provide needed services. The committee has also been pursuing other funding sources from the private sector to supplement CD funds.

REMOVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS

The long term objective of this project is to remove barriers which hinder the mobility of physically disabled people. The short term objective for this project is to remove barriers in major high use places such as post offices, airports, the downtown area, parks, etc. Toward this end, the Community Development Division is working closely with the Coalition for Barrier Free Living to secure recommendations for removal of architectural barriers. The CDD allocated \$150,000 in 1978, the 4th year of the program, and has budgeted \$175,000 for the 5th action year (1979), \$175,000 for the 6th action year (1980) and \$175,000 for the 7th action year (1981).

COMMUNITYWIDE PARK FACILITIES

The main thrust of this program is to provide specific recreational equipment for regional parks which serve low and moderate income city residents.

Specific activities scheduled for the area are as follows:

ACTIVITY	PROGRAM YEAR	AMOUNT	SOURCE
<u>Tidwell Park</u>			
Single gymnasium	5	\$ 600,000	CDBG
4 lighted tennis courts	5	176,000	CDBG
Olympic size pool	5	1,000,000	CDBG
2 handball courts	5	120,000	CDBG
Parking (200 spaces)	5	158,000	CDBG
Electrical renovation	5	100,000	CDBG
<u>Moody Park</u>			
New recreation center w/gymnasium	6	\$ 100,000	CDBG
Lighted soccer field	6	135,000	CDBG
General development including: renovation of electrical system, additional paved parking, land- scaping and water system	6	165,000	CDBG

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING NEEDS

Community-wide Needs Cont'd

Slightly more than 21% of the 557,270 households in the entire city require some form of housing assistance due to substandard conditions, overcrowding, and/or payment in excess of 25% of income toward housing expenses. Of the 119,826 households requiring assistance, nearly 55% are female-headed and 56% are minority households.

Substandard units (those which exhibit major or marginal violations of the City of Houston Housing Code) account for over 55% (24,671 units) of the total housing stock within the NSAs.

Houston has 104,445 disabled individuals, of whom 60% have incomes below \$3,000. Assisted housing for handicapped residents in Houston is essential. The Coalition for Barrier-Free Living and other handicapped groups have requested that funds be provided, so that families with handicapped members might make their homes barrier-free.

Approximately 70% of all unsolicited complaints received from the City's Fair Housing Officer were initiated by the residents of CD areas.

Of the seven conventional public housing projects located in the NSAs or Areas of Activity, four require major renovation and modernization.

Approximately 35% of the census tracts in the city have more than 50% concentration of low and moderate income families.

C. COMMUNITY-WIDE PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENT NEEDS

After receiving input from citizens and other City departments, the Community Development Division determined that the City of Houston is in need of several community-wide facilities. Specific facilities and improvements determined as community-wide needs under the CD program are: a center for the handicapped, improvements to regional parks and removal of architectural barriers.

Center for the Handicapped

According to the 1976 census, the City of Houston had 104,445 disabled individuals of which 52% were male and 48% female. Only 47% of handicapped individuals attended high school and only 17% went to college. Approximately 63% had incomes less than \$3,000 in the 1969 whereas 47% were employed in 1970.

The handicapped population has one of the highest unemployment rates of any job-ready group. Social attitudes and physical barriers combined with lack of transportation and unemployment constitute formidable obstacles for handicapped people who attempt to live with some degree of self sufficiency.

While there are a number of institutions and groups dealing with various aspects of this situation, there is no facility or agency that integrates social, psychological, legal, financial, and transport services for disabled people. There are no recreational centers in Houston designed for the disabled, no public pools in which they can swim and no accessible public social center in which they can congregate.

Form Approved
OMB No. 63-R1619

Replaces Form HUD-7015.1, which is Obsolete

DRAFT

		AMOUNT	FOR HUD USE ONLY
8	Relocation Payments and Assistance	\$ 237,482	\$
9	Payments for Loss of Rental Income		
10	Removal of Architectural Barriers	175,000	
11	Specially Authorized Assistance to Privately Owned Utilities		
12	Rehabilitation and Preservation Activities		
a	Rehabilitation of Public Residential Structures		
b	Public Housing Modernization		
c	Rehabilitation of Private Properties	3,250,000	
d	Code Enforcement	272,120	
e	Historic Preservation		
13	Specially Authorized Economic Development Activities		
a	Acquisition for Economic Development		
b	Public Facilities and Improvements for Economic Development		
c	Commercial and Industrial Facilities		
14	Special Activities By Local Development Corporations, Etc. (List)		
a		\$	
b			
c			
d			
15	SUBTOTAL	23,146,592	
16	Planning and Urban Environmental Design (See Part B of this form.)		
a	Development of a Comprehensive Community Development Plan	137,500	
b	Development of a Policy-Planning-Management Capacity		
c	Specially Authorized Comprehensive Planning Activities		
17	General Administration (From Part C, Line 6)	2,668,700	
18	Contingencies and/or Local Option Activities (Not to exceed 10% of amount shown in Part D, Line 1)	502,208	
19	TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS (Sum of Lines 15 through 18)	\$ 26,455,000	\$

DRAFT

Form Approved
OMB No. 63-R1619

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM		1. NAME OF APPLICANT City of Houston	
COST SUMMARY		2. APPLICATION/GRANT NUMBER B-78-MC-48-0018	
3. PERIOD OF APPLICABILITY			
FROM August 1, 1979	TO July 31, 1980	4. ☒ ORIGINAL (each year) ☐ REVISION, DATED _____ ☐ AMENDMENT, DATED _____	
Line	PART A. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY (Important: See instructions before classifying costs.)	AMOUNT	FOR HUD USE ONLY
1	Acquisition of Real Property	\$	\$
2	Disposition		
3	Public Facilities and Improvements		
a	Senior Centers		
b	Parks, Playgrounds and Other Recreational Facilities	2,654,000	
c	Centers for the Handicapped	3,000,000	
d	Neighborhood Facilities	750,000	
e	Solid Waste Disposal Facilities		
f	Fire Protection Facilities and Equipment		
g	Parking Facilities		
h	Public Utilities, Other Than Water and Sewer Facilities		
i	Street Improvements	2,268,000	
j	Water and Sewer Facilities	2,515,000	
k	Foundations and Platforms for Air Rights Sites		
l	Pedestrian Malls and Walkways		
m	Flood and Drainage Facilities	4,009,990	
n	Specially Authorized Public Facilities and Improvements (List)		
(1)		\$	
(2)			
(3)			
4	Clearance Activities	265,000	
5	Public Services	3,750,000	
6	Interim Assistance		
7	Completion of Previously Approved Urban Renewal Projects		

Replaces Form HUD-7015.5, which is Obsolete

Page 1 of pages

HUD-7067 (6-78)

COALITION FOR BARRIER FREE LIVING
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Coalition for Barrier Free Living is a non-profit tax exempt corporation established under Texas Law in April 1975.

Housed at 2809 Main St., P.O. Box 20803, Houston 77025, CBFL is directed by a seventeen member board which includes six elected officers and eleven additional elected directors. There are twelve standing committees: 1) Architectural Barriers, 2) Transportation, 3) Housing, 4) Employment, 5) Social Action, 6) Fund Raising, 7) Public Relations, 8) Consumer and Medical Affairs, 9) Membership, 10) Education, 11) Hearing Impaired, 12) Visually Impaired.

The membership consists of individuals with various disabilities including orthopedic, visual, hearing, and mental impairments. Joining together with those interested able-bodied individuals, the CBFL works for the civil rights of the handicapped consumer as well as for the elimination of the architectural and attitudinal barriers in the community. Accomplishments of the CBFL include:

1. Collection of architectural barrier data in the Harris County area resulting in the printing of a booklet "A Guide to Houston for the Handicapped".
2. Presentation of proposal for allocation by Community Development of \$86,000.00 for the elimination of architectural barriers in the downtown Houston area. To date 60 curb cuts have been completed. An additional \$500,000 in Community Development funds has been allocated for the elimination of architectural barriers in 1978 - 79.
3. Proposal to the Office of Public Transportation for the establishment of a door to door wheelchair accessible transportation service leading to the purchase of six wheelchair accessible buses.
Establishment of specific target areas and routes in coordination

with the CBFL transportation committee and the initiation of the Pick-Me-Up Service in October 1977.

4. Receipt of commitment from Office of Public Transportation that all future buses purchased, including 326 on order, will be accessible to the mobility impaired.
5. Receipt of \$1500.00 grant from the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for the modification of a cab for use by the mobility impaired.
6. Organization of leadership conference to establish a regional coalition to include Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New Mexico. Out of this conference was established a communications network among the five states. The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities was established to work on state issues.
7. Presentation of a three million dollar proposal in the 1979-80 Community Development Block Grant Program for a Center for Barrier Free Living. Construction of this Center will enable the handicapped community to have a central geographic location for service and information.
8. Production of two films in conjunction with the Rice University Media Center. "Wheeling and Dealing in Houston" was written, filmed and edited by Handicapped individuals. This film was instrumental in the CBFL's attainment of concessions from the Office of Public Transportation for accessible transportation. "You Can Get It If You Really Want It" illustrates the benefits which can be obtained by joining together in a coalition. Both films are in super-8mm color sound.
9. Employment of a full-time professional editor under the Comprehensive Education Training Act for the CBFL's newspaper "Freewheeling".
10. Consumer input in the yearly Houston Job Fair for the Handicapped. Presentation of awareness program for employers.

11. Acquisition of two full-time staff persons from the VISTA volunteer program.
12. Presentation of a \$100,000.00 proposal for a demographic study of the handicapped population in the Harris County Area. A Task Force on the Handicapped was formed to implement this study.
13. Declaration of a yearly Mobility Awareness Week in the Houston Area.

Ongoing projects of the CBFL include:

1. Information and Referral
2. Public Awareness - Education
 - a. General Public
 - b. Handicapped Community
 - c. Advocacy

The Coalition is expanding its membership daily and is bringing together all organizations and their members to effect change for the whole handicapped community.

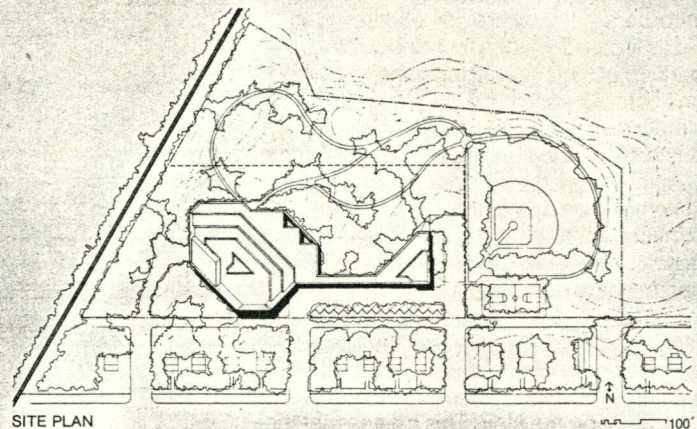
Coalition For Barrier Free Living

P. O. Box 20803

Houston, Texas 77025

(713) 654-1207

A place in which the soul can dance



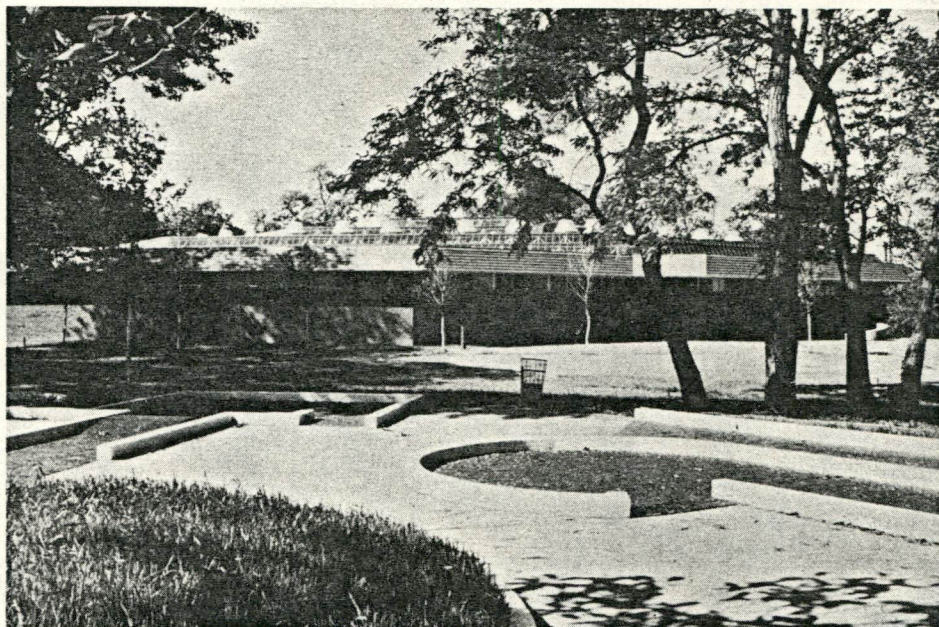
SITE PLAN

America's first public recreation center for the retarded and handicapped is now a magnet for therapists and architects. Kent Cooper's and William Lecky's design in our nation's capital is proving that barrier-free design has come of age.

Of all disabilities, mental retardation is by far the hardest to imagine for those not afflicted by it. Those of us who can see can blindfold ourselves, those of us who can hear can stuff our ears with cotton wool, those of us who can walk can roll ourselves about in wheelchairs. But how can one conceive—let alone simulate—what it is like to be retarded? Therefore, much of the architectural profession's planning for the needs of the mentally retarded has been based, of necessity, on observation alone. Institutions and schools for the retarded have existed for some time in this country, but save for one private facility in San Francisco, there had never been a public recreation center for the retarded and handicapped before the Joseph H. Cole Recreation Center opened last year in the Anacostia section of Washington, DC.

This building's significance lies not merely in its pioneering place in one municipal government's efforts to improve the lives of some of its most irredeemably deprived citizens, but also in that it should—indeed *must*—be studied by any architect involved in planning a similar facility. That imperative is clear enough if only in the uniqueness of this building and its program. But beyond that, the Cole Recreation Center is a virtual textbook for most of the issues inherent in barrier-free design, issues not limited to the specific disabilities to which many other buildings for the handicapped are confined.

The barriers implied in the phrase "barrier-free design" are generally, and not incorrectly, understood to be physical. But the psychological barriers most people have in approaching the subject are often just as much of a handicap as physical disabilities are to the handicapped. Perhaps that is why it has taken so astonishingly long for a building such



Exterior of center (above) with overhanging roof that protects arriving and departing users (below)



Accordingly, they devised a number of design solutions to accommodate and circumvent that anticipated community hostility. Cooper and Lecky planned the center's exterior to look as noninstitutional as possible. This they achieved by several

[illegible]

THIS PROJECT
OPERATED BY THE
D.C. DEPARTMENT

but extremely important, details that were so thoroughly worked out to anticipate every possible contingency that one feels the human presence behind this design far more palpably than in the vast majority of architectural design being done today. The swimming pool, the center's justifiable pride and joy, demonstrates the depth of attention given to this true example of total design. Since a great many of the center's users are confined to wheelchairs, a ramp was included to allow direct access into the pool for those vehicles. A common barrier to those in wheelchairs is the too-steep ramp, but this barrier becomes a hazard in a pool, where a steep incline could cause a paraplegic to roll, helpless, into water over his head. An easy 6-in. slope prevents that from happening.

Adjustable railings in the pool allow the pool to be used for physical therapy, and underwater railings demarcate areas of the pool used for special training. Around the pool's perimeter a wide wooden bench permits wheelchair transfers to be made in cases where the chair itself need not be taken into the pool, and the deck that surrounds it is slightly inclined to minimize water retention, and thereby reduces slip-page and skidding.

A sense of community is promoted at every turn at the center. Kent Cooper and William Lecky correctly felt that the one abnormality most frequently imposed by society on the retarded and the handicapped is that of isolation. The architects here have provided a place where people can reach beyond what other people see as their limited potential, but which they themselves experience as limited opportunity for the most basic of human impulses. This is a small, but very significant, beginning toward giving these people what is no more than their due, and no less than our duty. [Martin Filler]

Data

Project: Joseph E. Cole Recreation Center, Washington, DC.

Architects: The Kent Cooper Partnership (now The Cooper-Lecky Partnership). Rob Byrnes, Job captain.

Contractor: George C. Martin, Inc.

Program: municipal recreation center for the mentally retarded and handicapped, providing physical therapy, athletic, arts and crafts, and domestic skills facilities, and a day care center for preschool age children.

Site: a small, wooded public park in a low-rise, urban residential neighborhood.

Structural system: steel frame construction, metal space frame and steel joist roof.

Mechanical system: unit ventilators, chillers, and heaters.

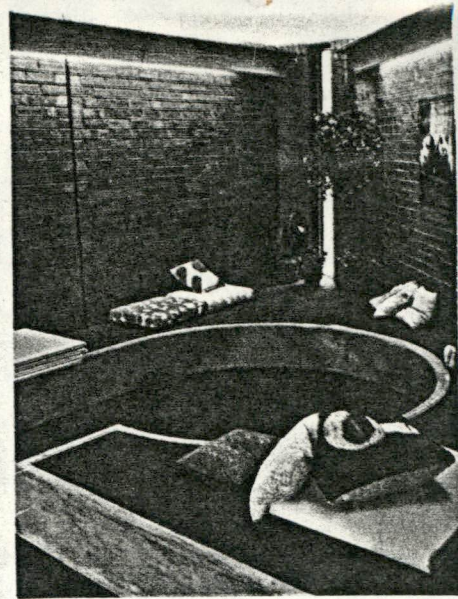
Major materials: brick masonry exterior walls, brick masonry and mortar interior walls, concrete and brick floors, acoustic tile ceilings. (See building materials, p. 134.)

Consultant: KCE Structural Engineers.

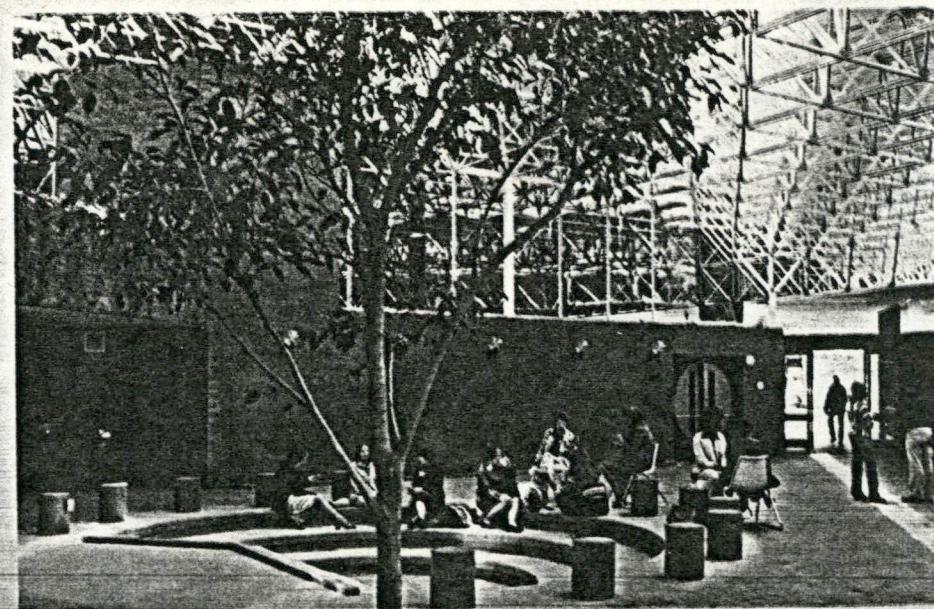
Client: DC Department of Recreation.

Cost: approximately \$2.3 million for construction and site work.

Photography: Robert Lautman, except as noted.



Push/pull bars (above left) permit wheelchair users maximum independence in passing through doorways. Nook in day care center (above right) is one of several "retreat spaces." Day care classroom (below) has glass sliding doors leading to park outside. Central courtyard (bottom) has floor texture change from brick to concrete to cue blind to conversation pit.



means in reducing the visual bulk of the structure. Among them were separating the center's day care facility into a smaller, adjacent pavilion, employing an angled plan that succeeds in cutting the building's mass, using recessive masonry cladding that lets the center blend in with the city park in which it is sited, and designing a deeply overhanging roof that further emphasizes the horizontal, domestic scale. (That overhang also serves as protection from the elements for those users who must be helped to and from vehicles and wheelchairs as they arrive at and leave the center.) Picnic tables that existed at this favorite neighborhood outing spot were kept intact, and a row of dilapidated abandoned houses adjacent to the center will soon be demolished to establish an open, landscaped link to the nearby streets.

So successful were the architects' efforts toward those ends that neighborhood residents who have visited the center have expressed astonishment that the building is actually so much larger on the inside than it seems on the outside. The general look of the Cole Recreation Center is not unlike a late copy of one of Frank Lloyd Wright's Usonian houses, not a startlingly innovative image, but one that serves the architects' purposes well. The 3-ft-high clerestory strip windows conform to the city's security requirements (as do the rollaway steel gates and roll-down steel tambour shutters that protect ground-level glass sliding doors), but a fortresslike feeling is happily avoided.

Heart of lightness

The interior does indeed come as a surprise after an examination of the exterior. A large central courtyard is dramatically topped by a structural space frame that proved to be a major contributing factor to the flexibility of the plan. Without that flexibility an architect is severely limited from the start in designing for the handicapped: for structural expediency is frequently the most serious obstacle to freedom of circulation. Here, the interplay of structural necessity and programmatic need was significantly enhanced by the use of this computer-designed structural system. And, in combination with skylights and the aforementioned clerestory windows, the space frame gives a feeling of lightness and loftiness that is at once comforting and uplifting.

The courtyard performs the first of a sequence of acclimating functions that make the interior spaces of this building seem as homelike as the exterior leads one to believe. Carefully considered sight lines make it possible for the visitor to catch glimpses of the various activities going on in the spaces clustered around the central atrium. Since fear of unknown spaces is a special problem for the mentally retarded, this gradual revelation of what comes next is of great help in easing them from the reception area into the specific activity

rooms. Sometimes, the transition is too great to be made in one step, so the architects have thoughtfully included several nichelike withdrawing areas into which the wary user can retreat until ready to face further exposure.

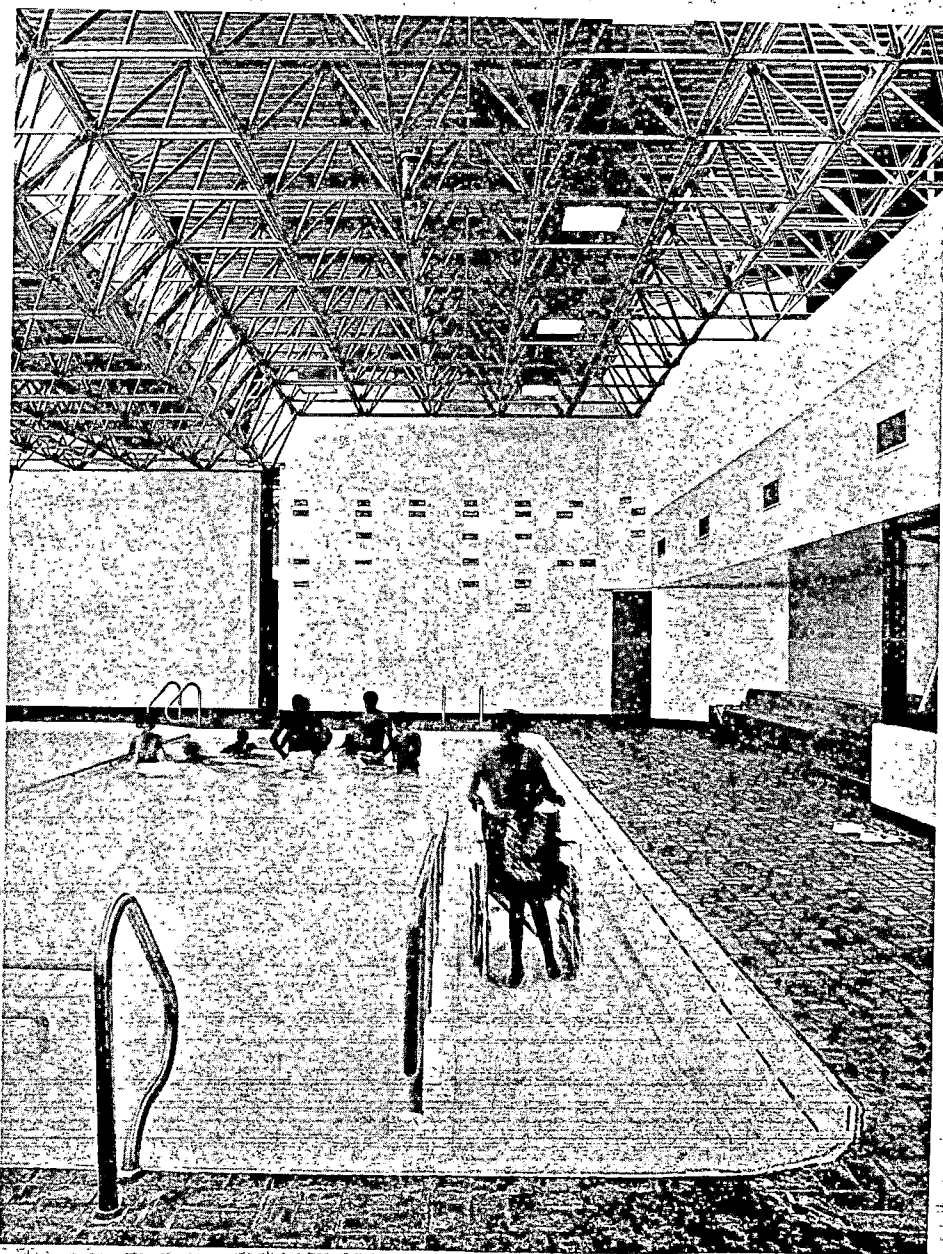
Little things mean a lot

Much of the designers' efforts, of course, were directed toward circulation, for while the center is used by the retarded, it is also open to the physically handicapped as well. Every conceivable detail of the building was evaluated for the different needs of both sets of users. Cooper and Lecky drew up a set of 18 design criteria, which ranged from steps (there are none except in mechanical areas) to hardware (push/pull bars, few knobs, automatic door closers on major entrances), from paving textures (varying to cue position for the blind) to color coding (enabling retarded users who can neither read nor count to "go to the blue door.")

There were literally hundreds of small,



Wheelchair access to pool (above) is aided by inclined ramps. Pool (below) has ramp enabling wheelchairs to go directly into it, and railings for special physical therapy activities.



CD Proposals Await City Council Vote

BY Tim Fleck

The \$3.5 million Houston Community Development proposals for handicapped services, including a proposed Center for Barrier-Free Living, made significant advances during the last month. At public hearings conducted before City Council on March 13-14, 21 persons spoke in support of the center and two other CD projects to install more ramps and curb cuts and carry out a demographic survey of Houston's disabled population.

Among those speaking were CBFL's Dorothy Yellon, Bob Geyer, Dr. Ralph Guertin, Bob Kafka, and Lex Frieden. Dr. William Spencer, Director of Texas Institute of Rehabilitation and Research, also a CBFL member, and citizens from the deaf, blind, and orthopedically disabled community explained to council why the center was needed.

The speakers pointed out that Houston lacks a recreational and social center totally accessible to the handicapped. Because of the Medical Center and other facilities, large numbers of disabled people are moving to Houston and thus far their needs are not being met.

The center would include offices, classrooms, and an accessible swimming pool and gymnasium. A model barrier-free living unit may be constructed, and all designs used will include the latest barrier-free innovations. Proposed services include legal and financial advocacy for disabled people, attendant referral and training, equipment repair, and extensive

recreational programs.

Community Development has budgeted \$3 million for the center, to be available in August of 1979. Actual construction could start shortly after that date if City Council approves the CD allocation. If the city furnishes the land, the entire \$3 million could go toward the actual facility. Also in the CD package: \$100,000 for a demographic survey of the numbers and needs of Houston's disabled population, with the money to become available this August. The last item in the CD budget for disabled services is \$350,000 for removal of architectural barriers through the installation of ramps and curb cuts in the Houston area. This money would be spent over the next two years.

Thusfar these proposals have received vital support from all segments of the community. Pluria Marshall, head of Operation Breadbasket and Third Ward CD Commissioner, offered the resolution to include the handicapped services proposals at the CD Commissioners Meeting early this month. It passed unanimously, despite the fact that many commissioners felt their own areas had not gotten enough money.

The final step will be approval by City Council, expected late this month or early April. If approved, planning for the center will begin immediately, with representatives from all disability groups participating.

Feb 1979

HEARINGS TO BE HELD

Public hearings on the proposed Community Development plan for Houston will be held in City Council Chambers at City Hall on the evenings of March 13 and 14. These hearings before City Council are intended to give the public an opportunity to comment on the plans before Council actually votes to approve or disapprove them. At this time, there are several programs in the plan which are of interest to disabled persons. In particular among these is the Center for the Handicapped. If many disabled people and friends show up to say the Center is needed and to express their support for the proposal, it is likely that City Council will approve it. On the other hand, if no one indicates the Center is needed, City Council will be less likely to approve it.

CBFL Office

2809 Main

P. O. Box 20803

654-1207

Houston, Texas 77025

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How to testify before City Council

Feb
1979

by Lex Frieden

For someone who has never testified at City Hall before, this may sound scary or complicated. By following these steps, most problems should be eliminated, the process should be more organized, and hopefully your fears will be at a minimum.

First- Make arrangements to get down to City Hall in time for the hearings. They will probably start at 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. If you need help finding a ride, call the CBFL office. If you think you're going to need help, call as many days ahead as you can.

Second- Call the City Secretary at 222-3011 on the day you want to speak and ask her to put your name on the speakers list for the meeting. She will want to know your name, address, the topic you want to speak on, and how long you want to speak (1, 2, or 3 minutes).

Third- Go into the City Council Chambers (second floor) and listen until your name is called

to speak. You may be called early or late depending on how early you called and how long you want to speak. Sometimes the hearings last two or three hours.

Fourth- When your name is called, go to the microphone and give your name and statement. Don't be afraid to say what you believe, and don't think Council won't listen to you. You're as important to them as anyone else because you can vote like anyone else, and voters elect them to begin with. It is a good idea to write down on paper what you plan to say so that you don't forget anything. It is not necessary, but you may want to type your statement and make a copy to give the secretary for the records.

Fifth- When you're finished, it's O.K. to leave quietly.

That's all there is to it! Nothing so simple is more important. The democratic system depends on citizen input. If we are going to benefit from the system we must contribute to it.

CD Chief Tells CBFL: Submit Center Plan

Houston Community Development head Edwin (Bob) Becnel has asked the Coalition to submit a detailed proposal for a center for the disabled to be built in Houston with Community Development funds.

The Center, which could include such features as a gymnasium, swimming pool, and auditorium-theatre, all specially designed for use by the disabled, would be built by CD, owned by the City of Houston, and operated by a board controlled by handicapped consumer representatives. Under the proposed arrangement the Coalition would lease the facility from the city for a token annual fee. The price tag for the center is thought to be in the \$3 million range.

Becnel, in a letter to Coalition president Bob Geyer, said "The Community Development Division hopes that the Coalition for Barrier Free Living will work with members of other handicapped groups throughout the city of Houston to insure input and broad community support for this project."

Community Development has not yet committed funds for the project. Fourth year monies, out of which the proposed center would be built, do not become available until Aug. 1. CD will release a plan detailing proposed use of the monies in March for citizen review.

Anyone wishing to participate in the planning of the center should call the Coalition at 4145 W. HOUSTON

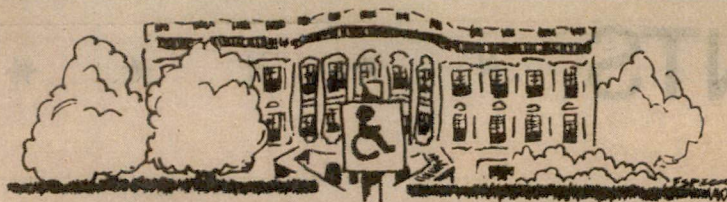
PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD

Mar
179

Public hearings on the proposed **Community Development Plan** for Houston will be held in City Council Chambers at City Hall on the **evenings of March 20 and 21, 1979**; at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively. These hearings before City Council are intended to give the public an opportunity to comment on the plans *before* Council actually votes to approve or disapprove them. At this time, there are *several* programs in the plan which are of interest to disabled persons. In particular among these is the *Center for the Handicapped*. If many disabled people and friends show up to say the Center is needed and to express their support for the proposal, it is likely that City Council will approve it. *On the other hand*, if no one indicates the Center is needed, City Council will be less likely to approve it.

For more information, contact the CBFL Office at 2809 Main or call 654-1207.

(See related story, How to Testify at Hearings, page 3).



NATIONAL NEWS

News and Events of National Import Outside of Texas

Marilyn

"So You're Building A Center For Crips? So What?!"

by Marilyn Golden

There's a lot of talk about the proposed center for handicapped people in Houston these days. What's the point of such a center, anyway? Is it a place where we can go swimming without being stared at, and the new "former-motorcycle-jocks" just out of TIRR can see a sample room at wheelchair level (which they don't want to live in anyway — gosh, I wouldn't either!)?

The movement to have such centers has strong roots in California and centers called ILP's — Independent Living Programs. Contrary to popular misconception, this *does not mean* that disabled people live there. Wheelchairs, whitetipped canes, and language-signers hustle and bustle there during the work week (along with "invisible disabled" such as epileptics and mental retarded, and some nice non-disabled people who are genuine friends). But the ILP exists to provide *Support Services* to folks living in *Regular Houses and Apartments*, so they can make it on their own.

Let's see how it works at the Center for Independent Living in Berkeley, the first and prototype ILP. Suppose you are dropped out of the sky (or banished from an angry relative or rejecting lover) in Berkeley, quadriplegic, with no money, no place to live, nothing. You manage to meet someone who will put you up for a few days but then what? You go into CIL and the first service you visit is called INTAKE. You talk to folks who help you figure out which CIL services you will need (All of which, by the way, are free). But where to begin? You figure you need housing, but even if you could find an accessible apartment, you couldn't pay the rent! So the first stop is Advocacy, where agency-wise folks can help you get whatever benefits are possible, whether SSI, attendant care, MediCal (California's beefed-up Medicaid program — it

pays for most of what TRC does in Texas), whatever. Armed with that information, you visit Housing, which receives lists of houses and apartments for rent every day, and checks on accessibility and modifiability, as well as maintaining roommate lists (they know the accessibility of practically every place in Berkeley, or so they boast!).

You're probably bushed by now, but !!! compress several days into one article. Advocacy told you you'd receive money to pay for an attendant, but where do you find one? Attendant Referral gives you a list of people to call. Pretty soon, you're set up, living, getting along — and bored. And SSI doesn't pay that much — how about a job? Visit Job Development; they maintain lists of jobs in all kinds of areas, can certify you for CETA if you qualify, even help you figure out what you want and what you can do. They investigate reports of discrimination against hiring disabled people, and help bridge the gap so that disabled people *don't* work *only* in disability-related jobs!

But how do you get to your job, anyway? Your battery won't carry you that far! (Though over shorter distances of a handful of miles, Berkeley residents are used to seeing power wheelchairs buzzing along.) Call Transportation Services, which coordinates van rides.

What other services can you use at Berkeley CIL? If you need legal advice, want to make a discrimination complaint, or do some volunteer CBFL-type work yourself, visit Disability Law Resource Center. Wheelchair breakdown? Get pushed to Wheelchair Repair. Want to learn to sign? Deaf Services has classes (as well as all kinds of services for deaf clients — there's a Blind Services too). Need counseling? There's a big Drug Abuse Counseling program, and a more limited

2-YEAR BUDGET

EXPENSES

EXPENSES

Construction	\$3,800,000	
Land Acq.	1,200,000	
Attorney	150,000	
Arch. Fee	266,000	
Other Construction	50,000	Construction Expenses
		\$5,466,000
Ex. Director	50,000	
Ass't. Director	30,000	
Sec/Clerical	32,000	
Fringe Benefits	19,000	Personnel Expenses
		\$ 131,000
Office Rental	-----	
1K sq. ft.	12,000	
Supplies, Furn., Equip.	12,000	
Utilities	5,000	
Travel	5,000	
Misc.	6,000	Other Expenses
		\$ 40,000
	\$5,637,000	

INCOME

C.D. - City of Houston	\$ 3,500 K	
Texas Rehab. Commission	200 K	
RSA	400 K	Government
		\$4,100,000
Gulf	150 K	
Exxon	150 K	
Private Donations	1,000 K	
Grants/Private Foundations	300 K	Private
		\$1.600,000
	\$ 5,700 K	

FACT SHEET:

CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED
Houston, Texas

WHAT IS THE CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED?

It is a centralized, multi-purpose facility designed to house educational, recreational and social service programs for people with disabilities.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE CENTER?

There are between 150,000 and 250,000 persons in Houston who are visually impaired (blind), hearing-impaired (deaf), mobility-impaired (use wheelchairs) or mentally retarded and who may benefit from the Center.

AREN'T THERE OTHER CENTERS LIKE THIS IN HOUSTON?

No, in spite of the fact that there are many fine training and rehabilitation centers for disabled people in our community, there are no facilities designed especially to meet the social and recreational needs of handicapped individuals. There are no completely barrier free public swimming pools, gymnasiums or auditoriums in Houston.

HOW LARGE WILL THIS FACILITY BE?

The Center will be approximately 60,000 square feet with a large outdoor park and recreation area on a three-to-four acre tract.

WHERE WILL THE CENTER BE LOCATED?

Several possible sites are under consideration, but no choice has been made.

WHEN WILL THE CENTER BE BUILT?

It is hoped that construction will begin during the last quarter of 1979.

HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THIS COST?

It is estimated that the Center and the land it rests on will cost between three and five million dollars.

WHO WILL PAY FOR IT?

Three million dollars in Community Development Block Grant funds have been allocated by the City to pay for the Center. Other funds will be solicited from charitable foundations, corporations and individuals who are interested in helping handicapped citizens be more active in our community.

WHO HAS DONE ALL THE PLANNING AND WORK ON THE CENTER THUS FAR?

A committee of twenty-five individuals representing various elements

of the handicapped community and the community at large have been meeting voluntarily to advise the Coalition for Barrier Free Living (CBFL), a voluntary, non-profit organization, on plans for the Center.

HOW CAN I GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTER AND WHAT I CAN DO TO HELP
MAKE IT A REALITY?

Contact the CBFL at Box 20803, Houston, Texas 77025 or CALL
654-1207.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
HOUSTON MULTI-SERVICE CENTER
FOR
HANDICAPPED PERSONS

We, the undersigned natural persons of the age of twenty-one years or more, who are all citizens of the State of Texas, acting as incorporators under the Texas Non-Profit Corporations Act, do hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation.

ARTICLE ONE

The name of the corporation is Houston Multi-Service Center for Handicapped Persons.

ARTICLE TWO

The corporation is a non-profit corporation. No part of the income of this corporation shall be distributable to its members, its directors or its officers.

ARTICLE THREE

The period of duration of this corporation is one hundred years.

ARTICLE FOUR

The purposes for which this corporation is organized are:

1. To promote and undertake community development activities on a not-for-profit basis;
2. To assist persons with physical, mental, developmental, or emotional impairments in becoming more functional members of society;
3. To provide these persons with programs and services such as recreation, education, health care (as permitted by law), social development, independent living skills, physical rehabilitation services (as permitted by law), and vocational rehabilitation services;
4. Charitable, scientific, literary, educational, eleemosynary, civic, social, athletic, recreational and aesthetic;

It is not the purpose of this corporation, and no substantial part of its activities shall include the carrying on of propaganda or attempting to influence legislation, except as permitted by Section 501(h) of Title 26 of the United States Code. This corporation shall not participate in any manner in any political campaign for any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE FIVE

The street address of the initial registry office of the corporation is _____, Houston, Harris County, Texas, and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is _____.

ARTICLE SIX

The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors of the corporation is _____, and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the initial directors are:

NAME

ADDRESS

ARTICLE SEVEN

The names and addresses of each incorporator is:

NAME

ADDRESS

ARTICLE EIGHT

Upon a vote of two-thirds of the members of the corporation (or such other persons as permitted in the bylaws) to dissolve this corporation, any assets which, upon a final accounting, are not required to pay any debts due and owing, the corporation shall have in its possession or under its control, or in which it has any claim, either legal or equitable, shall be granted, sold, and conveyed or otherwise distributed to the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas.

ARTICLE NINE

The corporation shall have as officers, a President, Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Officers shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board of Directors. Terms of office and method of election shall be specified in the bylaws of the corporation. The President may not hold either the office of Vice President or Secretary.

ARTICLE TEN

The corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of his role as a trustee, director, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a trustee, director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against express (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful.

The corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of his role as a trustee, director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fee) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation provided however, that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duty to the corporation except to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.

ARTICLE TEN (Cont'd.)

The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgement, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the trustee, director, officer, employee or agent to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that he is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section.

Indemnification hereunder shall be made only upon a determination in the specific case that indemnification is proper under the substantive standards established hereunder. Such determination shall be made (1) by the board of directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, or (2) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (3) by the members.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him against such liability under the provisions of this section.

In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set our hands this _____ day
of _____, 19____.

State of Texas
County of Harris

I, _____, a Notary Public, do hereby certify
that on this _____ day of _____, 19____, personally appeared
before me, _____,
and _____, who each being first duly
sworn, severally declared that they are the persons who signed the
foregoing document as incorporators, and that the statements contained
therein are true.

In Witness Whereof I have herunto set my hand and seal the day and year
above written.

Notary Public in and for

Harris County, Texas

My commission expires _____.

2-YEAR BUDGET

EXPENSES

Construction \$3,800,000

Personnel

Ex. Director 50,000

Ass't. Director 30,000

Sec/Clerical 32,000

Land Acq. 1,200,000

Attorney 150,000

Arch Fee 266,000

Other Contruction 50,000

Office Rental -----

1K sq. ft. 12,000

Supplies, Furn., Equip. 12,000

Utilities 5,000

Fringe Benefits ~~17,000~~ 19,000

Travel 5,000

Misc. 6,000

~~\$5,629,000~~

5,637,000

Personnel Total
\$131,000

CONST. EXP
\$5,466,000

Other EXP
\$ 40,000

INCOME

C.D. - City of Houston \$ 3,500K

Texas Rehab Commission 200K

RSA 400K

Gulf 150K

Exxon 150K

Private Donations 1,000K

Grants/Private Foundations 300K

5,700K

GOVERNMENT
\$4,100,000

Private
1,600,000

Handicapped speakers make their point with council

By GEORGE FLYNN
Post Reporter

The ears were deaf but the eyes were listening when a community development hearing in Houston City Council chambers turned from handicapped neighborhoods to handicapped bodies this week.

The sight of silent shouting to be heard, and wheelchair maneuvering to the speaker's stand, appeared to have a noticeable impact on city councilmen evaluating the projected \$76.7-million federal funding package for reforms.

A Wednesday session began with a man quietly reversing his chair, back to the council table, and waiting for the gavel to bring the meeting to order.

As the first speaker began, his words — but not the noise — were repeated by the seated man with highly exaggerated mouth and facial expressions.

His audience was a small section of the crowd of 200,

intently following the exchanges by reading his lips.

Another interpreter, Carol Taylor of the 700 block of Rutland, assisted with sign language.

The hearing moved on for longer than an hour, with some 30 residents taking councilmen on a verbal route through their depressed communities. Each had similar problems of drainage, poor streets and decay which funding would improve, they said.

Every phase uttered moved through the twisting faces and flickering hands of the interpreters and on to those watching. Speakers' animation would occasionally spark smiles on those with hearing, and seconds later the understanding grins of the deaf would follow.

Then their turn came, with pleas for the City Council to endorse the budgeted plans for a community center for the handicapped.

"These people are starved," said Van Gunn of the 1800 block of McDuffie, who had been assisting with the

lip reading. "They are tired and frustrated — agencies can't give them the decent help they need.

"Think about that handicap that nobody sees."

Gunn was raised by deaf parents and told of increasing frustration in trying to answer the questions and aid those without hearing.

Dr. Ralph Guertin, a member of the State Commission for the Deaf, lost his hearing at age 7. He said it was vital that the handicapped have a place to congregate, and Guertin spoke of the loneliness of even parties with regular conversation.

"Do you realize a deaf person can be alone, even in a room full of people?" he asked.

Carol Taylor said services for the deaf are so scattered it took her a year to get the proper contacts for assistance for friends. "I refused to believe what was happening," she added.

Joining them were wheelchair-bound persons of the Coalition for Barrier Free Living.

Bob Geyer urged councilmen to continue improvements which began with some wheelchair ramps and better accessibility on the transit system. Those blind, deaf or otherwise impaired are estimated to be about 10 percent of the population, he said.

The speakers and other handicapped persons began their efforts for a community center in the initial planning stages for the next three years of funding for community development.

The proposal calls for \$3 million to be spent for a community building to be located in the area of Montrose, Hermann Park or Binz. It would contain educational, office, recreational and meeting space. They would like it to also include model living areas where the handicapped can be trained to live in independent settings.

The City Council is studying the proposed budget and must pass or revise it within a month for submittal to Washington.

Deaf man captures council attention in plea for center

BY PHYLLIS SPITTLER
Chronicle Staff

In an unusual and poignant moment, a young deaf man captured the attention of City Council chambers in pleading for a multipurpose center for the handicapped.

Speaking in sign language translated by a deaf interpreter, the man, Jerry Arive, 25, of 1333 Moursund, said Houston needs a center where the disabled may meet and "learn a lot from each other" and about services available to them.

Council met Wednesday night on the proposed expenditure of \$23.5 million in federal Community Development funds for the fiscal year beginning Aug. 1.

Arive, deaf since birth and a resident of the Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research drew rare applause from the audience and council alike after his presentation during which the chambers had become almost silent.

Arive was one of 14 persons requesting that council include plans for a center for the handicapped in its application for the federal monies.

Dr. William Spencer, TIRR president, said rehabilitation of the handicapped is useless if they "can't become independent members of the community."

Spencer called the proposed center a

"major missing link" in helping the disabled achieve independence.

Others also requested inclusion in council's application.

Several citizens from the Millville Street area in northwest Houston pleaded with the city to install water services.

Mrs. Ada Mae Ford, 878 Granville, said the area has been a part of Houston 20 years and "has been left out far too many times."

Requests for street and drainage improvements were made by residents in the Sunnyside area in south Houston, along Fulton Street and in the Wallisville Road area.

Several persons spoke in favor of a senior citizens multi-purpose center.

City's bid for funds approved

City Council has given last-minute approval to the city's application for \$24.1 million in federal community development funds for the fiscal year beginning Sept. 1.

Council acted shortly before noon Wednesday after Bob Becnel, director of the city's Community Development Division, said the application was due in a federal regional office in Dallas before the close of business that same day.

Councilmen Larry McKaskle and Louis Macey voted against approving the application, saying it was not in the best interest of their council districts.

In addition, Macey said he opposed plans for funding construction of certain facilities such as a center for the handicapped without ensuring that funds will be available for maintaining and operating those facilities.

Councilman Frank Mancuso, who voted for the application, said he was supporting the measure with the understanding that it could be amended and that more council advice would be sought on subsequent applications.

The funds will be used primarily to help finance street and storm sewer projects and park and other community improvements.

Several persons complained to council on Wednesday about cutbacks in various community services projects as a result of the discontinuance of the old Model City program.

Council asked for a legal opinion on whether federal revenue-sharing funds and interest from those funds may be used for such social services projects as the Martin Luther King Center in the Third Ward area.

Council requested the opinion after Assistant City Controller Roland Brunet said the use of revenue-sharing funds and accrued interest on those funds for service agencies was a legal question.

Council urged to OK center for handicapped

BY FRED HARPER
Chronicle Staff

Seven persons have urged City Council to approve a Community Development Division proposal to spend about \$3 million for a handicapped center here.

Council Tuesday held a public hearing on the proposed expenditure of \$23.5 million in federal community development funds for the 12 months beginning Aug. 1.

Those backing the handicapped center included Ralph Guertin, a member of the State Commission for the Deaf, and Bob Geyer, representing the Coalition for Barrier Free Living.

Robert Becnel, director of the city's Community Development office, said the center could be constructed near Hermann Park, in the Binz area or in the Montrose area, depending upon the desires of handicapped citizens.

The facility, he said, would include recreational facilities, office, classroom and meeting space as well as model living areas to teach newly disabled persons how to live as independently as possible.

Becnel said plans also call for spending \$500,000 to remove barriers and provide such facilities as curbscuts throughout the city for persons confined to wheelchairs or with other handicaps.

Becnel said the federal government now requires the city to earmark smaller areas for "concentrated activity" instead of the scattered approach used in the program's three previous years.

The new approach will prevent including all areas in the proposal, he said.

Council will hear from the public tonight before deliberating the proposal, which must set final approval from the Housing and Urban Development office in Washington.

Cities are required to use the funds to conserve housing, prevent the deteriora-

tion of existing neighborhoods, reduce the isolation of low- and moderate-income groups from the mainstream of the community and promote a more rational use of land.

The city's proposed expenditure of the \$23.5 million includes \$10.9 million for public works projects, such as water and sewer improvements, street repair and park acquisition and improvements; \$5.1 million for loans and grants for housing rehabilitation, and \$2.9 million for public services, such as juvenile and day care facilities.

Becnel said the city expects to receive \$25.9 million in 1979 and \$27.2 million in 1980.

\$40 million water cost may be avoided here

Houston may meet newly proposed federal standards for drinking water without installing a \$40 million charcoal filtering system, a city official said today.

Bill Healer, manager of water production for the city, said the proposals that were published last month generally require cities with populations exceeding 75,000 to install the filters.

The regulations, however, provide for an exemption for cities that can show that their water supplies meet the proposed standards, he said.

Officials of the federal Environmental Protection Agency believe that Houston will be among the cities escaping the expense of installing the filtering devices, Healer said.

The filtering system, called a granular-activated carbon system, is needed in some areas to remove organic chemicals suspected of causing cancer.

City to get requested \$24.1 million in Community Development funds

Houston will receive its requested \$24.1 million in federal Community Development funds for the year beginning Aug. 1.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development grant will go for capital improvements, public services and housing rehabilitation in 23 targeted areas.

The city was notified Thursday of the award.

Houston has voluntarily committed nearly \$48 million in local money over the next three years for the community development program, with a sizable portion to be sought in the next bond election.

Houston was awarded all the money requested this year, said Jim Lemond, an executive assistant to the mayor. It usually has received less than cities of comparable size because of HUD policy to fund projects in the Northeast, Lemond explained.

Baytown to seek U.S. funding for third year

It will be at least a year before the major capital improvement projects planned are begun, he said.

HUD OKs \$1.1 million grant for Pasadena

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved a \$1.1 million grant for the city of Pasadena to be used for street and drainage improvements and housing rehabilitation loans.

Bruce Spitzengel, assistant director of planning for Pasadena, said it is the fourth year that the city has received the grant, which requires no matching funds.

The money will pay for paving, curb and gutter improvements in the Satsuma, Westover and Deepwater areas. In addition, \$110,000 of the money will be used for low interest loans for upgrading and repair of homes in low income areas, Spitzengel said.

The office of U.S. Rep. Bob Eckhardt, D-Houston, announced the grant.

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HUD NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON D.C. 20410

HUD-No. 77-111
Phone (202) 755-5277
(Spiegel)

FOR RELEASE:
Monday
April 18, 1977

The Department of Housing and Urban Development today issued final regulations governing the eligibility of Centers for the Handicapped for Community Development Block Grant funds.

The rulings, appearing today in the Federal Register, define such Centers as facilities "which provide services for the handicapped other than residential."

A major requirement for qualification of a center is that it must be publicly owned, although it may be operated by a private non-profit group.

Centers for the Handicapped were declared eligible for Block Grant funds under the Housing Authorization Act of 1976, with interim regulations published October of 1976, and clarifications added for comment Jan. 17.

The final rules are effective immediately.

#

Post, May 18, 1978

At City Hall

Application for grants approved

The Houston City Council Wednesday approved an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$24.1 million in grants to finance Community Development programs and activities for the 1978 fiscal year.

Councilmen Larry McKaskle and Louis Macey voted against the proposal. McKaskle said neither the percentage of funds allocated nor the projects included were in the best interest of his district.

Macey objected because \$3 million was allocated for construction of a multi-service center for the handicapped without pinpointing any source of additional funds to operate such a facility.

He said none of the funds would be spent in the area west of Main Street and south of Buffalo Bayou, an area he represents.

Macey also claimed council was setting a "dangerous precedent" of letting Community Development tell City Council how to spend future bond money without input from councilmen, an accusation Mayor Jim McConn said is unfounded.

McConn urged the council to approve the application because of a pressing deadline of the regional HUD office in Dallas. Robert Becnel, Community Development director, said the deadline was 4:30 P.M. Wednesday.

A staff member was catch an airline flight to Dallas to deliver the application by the deadline.

*See Friedman
file*

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM:

CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

UNDER FINAL RULES PUBLISHED MARCH 1, 1978

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-128) authorized and amended the Community Development Block Grant Program of 1974. On March 1, 1978, the Department of Housing and Urban Development published final rules implementing the Act (24 C.F.R. Part 570; 43 F.R. 8434, 8450 and 8476). These final regulations, at Subpart C, set forth the eligible activities for which Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds may be used. These final rules reflect several major changes in HUD's approach to the use of CDBG funds by private non-profit groups, such as centers for the handicapped which includes most rehabilitation facilities.

In reviewing these rules it must be remembered that meeting the eligible activity criteria does not automatically render a proposed project eligible for CDBG funds. The total community development plan application submitted by the unit of local government must meet several other requirements of the Act. Eligible activities proposed to be included in the plan must be shown to benefit principally low and moderate income persons, or prevent or eliminate slums and blight. Therefore, in seeking Community Development Block Grant

funds, when an activity is questioned by HUD, ARF members should be prepared to demonstrate how their projects will benefit low and moderate income persons. Activities designed to benefit the handicapped are presumed by HUD to benefit low and moderate income persons unless there is evidence to the contrary. Community-wide facilities designed for low and moderate income persons outlined at Section 570.302(d)(2)(iv) which includes most centers for the handicapped meet these program benefit standards.

The specific eligible activities for which centers for the handicapped are eligible, whether private or nonprofit, are, in order of the regulations:

1. Publicly-owned centers for the handicapped, Section 570.201(c)).

The term "centers for the handicapped," is defined at Section 570.201(c)(3). Under this section, publicly-owned centers for the handicapped, other than those which are primarily residential, are eligible to receive CDBG funds for any purpose, including acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvements. For HUD's purposes, a public facility is a facility the ownership of which is vested in a public body such as a unit of general local government.

2. Public services, (Section 570.201(e)).

Units of general local government may use CDBG funds for the provision of public services. The unit of general

local government may provide these services directly or through private nonprofit agencies, including centers for the handicapped. However, in order for the public services to be eligible to be funded, they must meet several specific criteria outlined in the regulations. Therefore, while centers for the handicapped would be eligible under this section to provide public services, the services must meet five criteria: (1) they must be limited to use in a Neighborhood Strategy Area; (2) they must meet the needs of the neighborhood residents; (3) they must be new services or represent an increase in the level of services provided by state and local funds in the previous year; (4) federal funds must have been applied for and denied; and (5) the services are necessary to support physical development activities.

3. Rehabilitation activities, (Section 570.202(c)).

Under this section, private nonprofit centers for the handicapped are eligible to apply for a loan or grant from the community development authority for two purposes. Centers for the handicapped may use CDBG funds to acquire and rehabilitate buildings for use or resale in the provision of housing only. Secondly, private nonprofit centers for the handicapped may receive rehabilitation financing to provide grants, loans, loan guarantees and interest supplements for the cost of rehabilitation,

refinancing of existing indebtedness, energy conservation, and water and sewer hook up costs. The cost of rehabilitation includes fixing deferred maintenance items, replacing fixtures, and renovation through alterations, additions to, or enhancement of existing structures. The requirement under the previous regulations that the rehabilitation of a property be "incidental to other activities" has been eliminated.

4. Private nonprofit entities - Eligible Activities
(Section 570.204).

This new section constitutes the biggest change in the regulations with respect to the treatment of private nonprofit groups, including centers for the handicapped. Section 570.204(a)(2)(i) defines a private nonprofit entity as:

"any organization, corporation or association duly organized to promote and undertake community development activities on a not-for-profit basis . . ."

The phrase, "duly organized to promote and undertake community development activities," means that a nonprofit group is eligible to participate under this paragraph if it can perform any community development activity outlined as eligible in the regulations. Therefore, any private nonprofit organization meeting the definition of a center for the handicapped set forth in Section 570.201(c)(3) without regard to the nature of ownership is eligible to receive funds under this section.

Section 570.204(b) states that private nonprofit entities may receive funds for the types of activities eligible under section 570.201 (which authorizes acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation authority); Section 570.202 (acquisition and rehabilitation authority) and Section 570.203 (economic development activities). This change means that CDBG funds are available to centers for the handicapped to acquire title to construct and/or rehabilitate facilities.

However, if a privately-owned center for the handicapped uses block grant funds to acquire title to a facility, the center, like a publicly owned center, must be open for use by the general public during all normal hours of operation and may charge only reasonable fees for the use of the facility. Open for use by the general public with regard to centers for the handicapped has been determined by HUD to mean open and available to all individuals seeking the services offered by that facility. For example, a vocational rehabilitation center would accept all referrals for vocational services, but not necessarily social adjustment services. Furthermore, although the facility contained a gymnasium, used as part of the vocational program, it would not be required to be open to other members of the public seeking to use it who are not receiving services for which the facility is primarily designed. Secondly, fees charged for services offered must be reasonable and not result in excluding

low and moderate income persons. The intention in including this qualification is to avoid the creation of selective, essentially private, membership clubs. Reasonable fees charged for services are allowed and may continue to be charged. The majority of fees charged to clients for services delivered are reviewed, reimbursed, and regulated by a third party such as the state vocational rehabilitation program, state workers compensation program, Medicaid, Social Security, Medicare, state mental health programs, or commercial insurers. Those fees charged individuals which fall within the range of fees reimbursed by these third party payors shall be deemed reasonable for CDBG purposes.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

31 MAR 1978

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Charles S. Richman
Director, Program Development
Association of Rehabilitation
Facilities
5530 Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 955
Washington, D. C. 20015

Dear Mr. Richman:

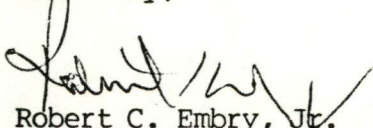
This is in reply to your letter of March 15, 1978, which you sent to Mr. William Hammer of my staff. It is my understanding that you had further discussions with my staff on March 21, 1978.

The revised outline which you presented on March 21, 1978, is an accurate and proper statement of the activities for which centers for the handicapped are eligible to receive funds under the Community Development Block Grant program and of related program requirements.

The Department appreciates the input which was provided by the Association of Rehabilitation Facilities in the recent process of revising the program regulations. The block grant program has many objectives and is designed to address many of the needs facing urban areas in America. We are particularly hopeful that the revisions in the regulations will result in an increased responsiveness to the needs of handicapped citizens.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,


Robert C. Embry, Jr.
Assistant Secretary

aim strategy statement shall

- (i) a brief description of the activity;
- (ii) a brief description of the needs and conditions the activity is designed to address; and
- (iii) a brief description of how the activity will impact upon the needs and conditions which it is designed to address.

(2) *Interim NSA designation.* For those applications submitted during fiscal year 1978, applicants may designate Interim NSA's for activities subject to this requirement. An Interim NSA is selected by the applicant and designated in the Community Development Program. In determining the size of the NSA, the applicant shall take into account the severity of its problems and the amount of resources to be provided to address those problems. For each area designated as an NSA, the applicant shall include a brief narrative description of its plan for stabilizing and upgrading the area which:

- (i) provides for a combination of physical improvements, necessary public facilities and services, private investment and citizen self-help activities appropriate to the needs of the area; and
- (ii) coordinates public and private investment efforts.

§ 570.201 Basic eligible activities.

Grant assistance may be used for the following activities:

(a) *Acquisition.* Acquisition in whole or in part by a public agency, by purchase, lease, donation or otherwise, of real property (including air rights, water rights, rights-of-way, easements, and other interests therein) which is:

(1) Blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth, as determined by the recipient pursuant to State and local laws;

(2) Appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities;

(3) Appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities or the guidance of urban development;

(4) To be used for the provision of public works, facilities and improvements eligible for assistance under this subpart; or

(5) To be used for other public purposes, including the conversion of land to other uses where necessary or appropriate to the community development program. Examples include an applicant purchasing land to be used for the development of housing for low- and moderate-income persons, and an applicant which is a central city of a metropolitan area using block

grant funds to purchase houses in a non-impacted suburban jurisdiction in order to provide a wider choice of housing opportunities for central city lower-income residents.

(b) *Disposition.* Disposition, through sale, lease, donation, or otherwise, of any real property acquired with block grant funds or its retention for public purposes, provided that the proceeds from any such disposition shall be program income subject to the requirements set forth in § 570.506. Further information regarding disposition is set forth in § 570.613.

(c) *Public facilities and Improvements.* Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of certain publicly owned facilities and improvements. This may include the execution of architectural design features, and similar treatments intended to enhance the esthetic quality of facilities and improvements receiving block grant assistance, such as decorative pavements, railings, sculpture, pools of water and fountains, and other works of art. Public facilities and improvements eligible for assistance under this paragraph include:

(1) *Senior centers,* but excluding any facility whose primary function is to provide residential accommodations or care on a 24-hour day basis (such as a group home).

(2) *Parks, playgrounds and other recreational facilities* which are designed for participation, but not spectator facilities such as stadiums.

(3) *Centers for the handicapped.* The term "center for the handicapped" means any single or multipurpose facility which seeks to assist persons with physical, mental, developmental and/or emotional impairments to become more functional members of the community by providing programs or services which may include, but are not limited to, recreation, education, health care, social development, independent living, physical rehabilitation and vocational rehabilitation; but excluding any facility whose primary function is to provide residential care on a 24-hour a day basis (such as a group home or halfway house). For example, a sheltered workshop would be a single purpose center for the handicapped, and a facility providing several services for the handicapped would be a multipurpose center for the handicapped, both of which are eligible for assistance.

(4) *Neighborhood facilities.* Such facilities may be of either a single purpose or multipurpose nature and be designed to provide health, social, recreational or similar community services primarily for residents of the neighborhood service area which is either:

(i) A geographic location within the jurisdiction of a unit of general local

government (but not the entire jurisdiction) designated in comprehensive plans, ordinances or other local documents as a neighborhood or, in a new community as defined in § 570.403(a), a neighborhood, village or similar geographical designation; or

(ii) An entire unit of general local government or a new community as defined in § 570.403(a) which is under 25,000 population, with the exception of a facility which is designed solely as a communitywide facility in a new community with a currently projected population in excess of 25,000.

(5) *Solid waste disposal facilities,* which are defined as those physical parts of solid waste management systems commencing at and including the site or sites at which publicly or privately owned collection vehicles discharge municipal solid wastes, through the point of ultimate disposal including necessary site improvements and conveying systems, including appropriate fixed and movable equipment including vehicular containers used after the first stage of disposal at transfer stations, but not including the final collections. (i) Such facilities or equipment must be located in or serve areas where other activities included in the Community Development Program are being carried out, such as a NSA. (ii) Equipment and appurtenances used in the initial collection of solid waste are not included among those solid waste disposal facilities eligible for assistance under this Part.

(6) *Fire protection facilities and equipment.* Such facilities and equipment must be located in or serve areas where other activities included in the Community Development Program are being carried out, such as a NSA.

(i) Fire protection facilities are defined as the land and necessary improvements thereto which are necessary for properly housing and storing fire protection equipment and personnel by a fire protection organization, but not including fire fighting schools and their appurtenances.

(ii) Fire protection equipment is defined as the appropriate equipment and apparatus which a fire protection organization requires for carrying out a program for protecting property and maintaining the safety and welfare of the public, including emergency medical aid, from the dangers of fire.

(7) *Parking facilities.* Such facilities must be located in or serve areas where other activities included in the Community Development Program are being carried out, such as a NSA.

(8) *Public utilities,* other than water and sewer, which include:

(i) Facilities necessary for distribution of the utility (but not production or generation, such as electrical generation plants);

(ii) Buildings and improvements that are an integral part of the utility and

RULES AND REGULATIONS

by appropriate law or ordi-

ly owned historic properties be assisted, including those properties which are otherwise ineligible for assistance under this subpart. However, eligibility is limited only to those costs necessary for rehabilitation, preservation or restoration of the property and not for conversion or expansion of the property for any ineligible use. For example, a city museum serving low- and moderate-income persons, and listed in the National Register may be restored, but the addition of a new wing on the museum could not normally be assisted, unless it were otherwise eligible for assistance pursuant to § 570.203(b).

§ 570.203 Eligible economic development activities.

Grant assistance may be provided for the following development activities which are not otherwise eligible for block grant assistance, which are directed toward the alleviation of physical and economic distress, or the economic development of a new community as described in § 570.403(a) through stimulation of private investment community revitalization, and expansion of economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons, and handicapped persons, and which are necessary and appropriate to implement the applicant's strategy for economic development.

The applicant shall provide HUD with a description of the activity, and of the relationship to the applicant's strategy for economic development. In authorizing activities, HUD will take into account the amount of long-term employment to be generated by the activity accessible to low- and moderate-income persons, the necessity of the activity to stimulate private investment, the degree of impact on the economic conditions of the applicant, and the availability of other Federal funds.

(a) *Acquisition.* Acquisition of real property for economic development purposes;

(b) *Public facilities and improvements.* Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or installation of public facilities and improvements not otherwise eligible for assistance, except buildings and facilities for the general conduct of government which are excluded by § 570.207(a)(1).

For example, in an area with an unemployment rate in excess of the national rate, a manpower training center which is designed to prepare for the work force low- and moderate-income persons who are unemployed or underemployed, may be assisted where it is determined by the applicant that such a facility is necessary and appropriate to support its economic development strategy.

(c) *Commercial and industrial facilities.* Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of:

(1) Commercial or industrial buildings and structures, including:

(i) Purchase of equipment and fixtures which are part of the real estate, but not personal property; and

(ii) Energy conservation improvements designed to encourage the efficient use of energy resources (including renewable energy resources or alternative energy resources);

(2) Commercial or industrial real property improvements (including railroad spurs or similar extensions).

§ 570.204 Eligible activities by private nonprofit entities, neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations, local development corporations, or small business investment companies.

(a) *General.* Grant assistance may be used by applicants to provide block grant funds for activities designed to implement the applicant's strategies for economic development and neighborhood revitalization set forth in this section to be carried out by a private nonprofit entity, a neighborhood-based nonprofit organization, local development corporation, or Small Business Investment Company (SBIC). (1) *Applicant Responsibilities.* Applicants are nonetheless responsible for ensuring that block grant funds are utilized by such entities in a manner consistent with the requirements of this Part and other applicable Federal, State, or local law. Specific requirements governing the administration of the use of block grant funds by such entities are set forth in § 570.612. Applicants will also be responsible for the carrying out of applicable environmental review and clearance responsibilities.

(2) *Eligible Entities.* Entities eligible to receive block grant funds under this section are: (i) A private non-profit entity which is any organization, corporation, or association, duly organized to promote and undertake community development activities on a not-for-profit basis, including new community associations as defined in § 570.403(b);

(ii) A neighborhood-based nonprofit organization which is an association or corporation, duly organized to promote and undertake community development activities on a not-for-profit basis within a neighborhood as defined pursuant to § 570.201(c)(4). An organization is considered to be neighborhood-based if the majority of either its membership, clientele, or governing body are residents of the neighborhood where activities assisted with block grant funds are to be carried out;

(iii) A Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) which is an entity

organized pursuant to section 301(d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 681(d)), including those which are profit making; and

(iv) A local development corporation which is an entity organized pursuant to Title VII of the Headstart, Economic Opportunity, and Community Partnership Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 2981) an entity eligible for assistance under section 502 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 698), a State development entity eligible for assistance under section 501 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695), or other similar entity incorporated pursuant to Federal State, or local law.

(b) *Activities eligible under §§ 570.201-570.203, and § 570.205 and § 570.206.* Grant assistance may be provided by an applicant to be utilized by private nonprofit entities, neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations, SBIC's, or local development corporations for activities otherwise eligible for block grant assistance pursuant to §§ 570.201-570.203, § 570.205, and § 570.206. Where such entities use block grant funds to acquire title to facilities, including those described in § 570.201(c) or § 570.203(b), they shall be operated so as to be open for use by the general public during all normal hours of operation. Reasonable fees may be charged for the use of facilities acquired by such entities, but charges, such as excessive membership fees, which will have the effect of precluding low- and moderate-income persons from using the facilities are not permitted.

(c) *Community economic development or neighborhood revitalization activities.* Grant assistance may be provided by an applicant to be used by neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations, SBIC's or local development corporations, but not private nonprofit entities as defined in § 570.204(a)(2)(i), for community economic development or neighborhood revitalization activities which are not otherwise eligible for assistance under this subpart and which are determined by the applicant to be necessary or appropriate to the accomplishment of its Community Development Program. Such activities may include the provision of block grant assistance for use by neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations, SBIC, or local development corporations for:

(1) Assistance through grants, loans, guarantees, interest supplements, or technical assistance to new or existing small businesses, minority businesses and neighborhood nonprofit businesses for

(i) Working capital or operational funds; and

(ii) Capital for land, structures, property improvements, and fixtures;

(2) Capitalization of a SBIC or local development corporation required to

assistance under other Federal programs;
 (i) Obtain performance bonding; or
 (ii) Other activities, excluding those described as ineligible for block grant assistance in §§ 570.207(a)(1) and (e), appropriate for community economic development or neighborhood revitalization. Where an applicant proposes to fund such entities to undertake activities pursuant to this paragraph, the applicant shall:

- (i) Provide HUD with a complete description of the proposed activity;
- (ii) Provide HUD with a description of the relationship of the proposed activity to the applicant's strategy for neighborhood revitalization or economic development; and
- (iii) Receive specific authorization from HUD to undertake the activity.

§ 570.205 Eligible planning, and urban environmental design costs.

Grant assistance may be used for the following planning, design, and environmental costs:

(a) *Development of a Comprehensive Community Development Plan.* For the purpose of this section, the term "Comprehensive Community Development Plan" means a statement or statements (in words, maps, illustrations or other methods of communication) which identify the present conditions, needs and major problems of the applicant's jurisdiction relating to the specific objectives of the Community Development Program as set forth in § 570.2(a) and set forth objectives, policies and standards to guide the development and implementation of such Community Development Program. Activities necessary to develop a Comprehensive Community Development Plan may include:

(1) *Data gathering and studies* necessary for the development of the Plan or its components, including the production of base mapping and aerial photography in coordination with the U.S. Geological Survey, and gathering information from citizens, but excluding the gathering of detailed data and preparing of analyses necessary for the engineering and design of facilities or activities ineligible for block grant assistance pursuant to § 570.207;

(2) *Development of statements of objectives, policies and standards* regarding proposed or foreseeable changes in the present conditions or problems affecting the applicant's jurisdiction that are to be addressed by the Community Development Program, including policies which will affirmatively further fair housing;

(3) *Development of a three-year Community Development Plan* which identifies the community development, housing, and economic conditions and needs, demonstrates a comprehensive strategy for meeting those needs and

specifies both short- and long-term objectives to guide the applicant's Community Development Program;

(4) *Related planning and urban environmental design activities* including the preparation of communitywide plans for land use, housing, open space, recreation, utilities, historic preservation, including surveys of historic properties, economic development, neighborhood preservation, removal of architectural barriers to the elderly and handicapped, and environmental assessment;

(5) *Collection of detailed data*, preparation of analyses, engineering and design of facilities eligible for assistance which can be constructed with block grant funds; and

(6) *Development of codes, ordinances and regulations*, necessary for the implementation of the plan, including local fair housing ordinances.

(b) *Development of a policy-planning-management capacity* so that the applicant may:

(1) Set long-term and short-term objectives related to the community development and housing needs of its jurisdiction;

(2) Devise programs and activities to meet these goals and objectives;

(3) Establish an urban environmental design administrative capacity to use a systematic, interdisciplinary approach to the integrated use of natural and social sciences and environmental design arts in planning and decision making;

(4) Evaluate the progress of such programs and activities and the extent to which the goals and objectives have been accomplished; and

(5) Carry out the management, coordination and monitoring of the activities and programs that are a part of the applicant's Community Development Program.

(c) *Comprehensive planning activities.* In addition to the planning activities otherwise eligible for assistance under this section, assistance may be also provided for comprehensive planning activities eligible for assistance under the section 701 planning assistance program pursuant to 24 CFR Part 600 provided that such additional planning activities are necessary or appropriate to meeting the needs and objectives of the applicants' Community Development Program. The applicant shall submit a description of the activity to HUD. Among the factors HUD will take into account in authorizing activities will be the impact of the activity on the needs and objectives identified by the applicant, and the availability of other Federal funds.

§ 570.206 Eligible Administrative Costs.

Payment of reasonable administrative costs and carrying charges related to the planning and execution of com-

munity development activities financed, in whole or in part, with funds provided under this Part and housing activities covered in the applicant's Housing Assistance Plan (HAP). Costs incurred in carrying out the program, whether charged to the program on a direct or an indirect basis, must be in conformance with the requirements of Federal Management Circular (FMC) 74-4, "Cost Principles Applicable to Grants and Contracts with State and Local Governments." All items of cost listed in Attachment B, Section C of that Circular (except Item 6, preagreement cost, which are eligible only to the extent authorized in § 570.301(c)) are allowable without prior approval to the extent they constitute reasonable costs and are otherwise eligible under this subpart.

(a) *Eligible program administration costs.* Reasonable administrative costs and staff expenses include necessary expenditures for the following:

(1) Salaries, wages and related costs of the applicant's staff and the staff of local public agencies engaged in carrying out the program;

(2) Travel costs incurred for official business in carrying out the program;

(3) Administrative services performed under third-party contracts or agreements, including such services as general legal services, accounting services and audit services;

(4) Other costs for goods and services required for administration of the program, including such goods and services as rental and maintenance of office space, insurance, utilities, office supplies and rental or purchase of office equipment;

(5) Costs associated with the administration of individual program activities; and

(6) Reasonable administrative costs relating to the provision of rehabilitation loans under Section 312 of the Housing Act of 1964, as amended, and, where appropriate, administration of an urban homesteading program pursuant to section 810 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, in accordance with the Community Development Program or housing assistance plan.

(b) *The provision of information and other resources to residents and citizen organizations* participating in the planning, implementation, or assessment of activities being carried out with block grant funds. This may include assistance to neighborhood organizations in areas of concentrated activities or to city-wide organizations conducting training or other activities designed to increase the capability of low- and moderate-income persons to be involved effectively in the development and planning and design of a community development program consistent with the applicable citizen participation requirements set forth in this Part.