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 William Nicoson

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September 1, 1972

Mr. Leonard Gordon  
 Office of New Communities Development  
 Room 7150  
 Department of Housing and Urban Development  
 Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Leonard:

I am forwarding herewith five sets of the first installment of edited portions of the New Communities Handbook. The first installment consists of a cover sheet; full table of contents; Chapter 1 (Program Purpose and Description); the first eight sections of Chapter 2 (Procedures for Guarantee and Interest Loan Assistance); and the first four sections of Chapter 3 (Project Criteria).

I am also forwarding the master from which the type script has been prepared. This will enable you to see modifications at a glance and to proofread the type script should you desire to do so. While I have had the type script proofread, I have not been able to review it personally; I will do so while it is being studied by the new communities staff, and I may offer corrections at our meeting scheduled for September 12th at 2 p.m.

You will note that, though the contract-defined task involved in production of the enclosed portions of the Handbook is "editing", in fact key elements of the physical and environmental components (Sections 3-3 and 3-4) were not included in the HUD draft furnished as a master. These elements (including criteria for commercial development, institutional development and open space and the role of the physical and environmental components in the phases of project agreement and monitoring) have been drafted without benefit of existing text and should therefore be reviewed with particular care by staff experts. I do not represent myself to be a qualified physical or environmental planner.

I have reserved editing of the economic component (Section 3-6) for completion in conjunction with the major re-working of the financial component (Section 3-7) and related procedural text (Sections 2-9 through 2-15). Chapter 4 in its present format is wholly unsatisfactory: either major re-working is required or the deletion of unfunded programs (which are after all briefly described in Chapter 1). We can discuss the alternatives at our September 12th meeting.

You should expect to receive shortly the portions of the Handbook being re-worked by consultants: the social component (Section 3-5) and management component (Section 3-9).

Sincerely,

*William Nicoson*  
 William Nicoson

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