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HUD-No. 72-642 Phone (202) 755-5284 (Savage) Med Lingth FOR Sun Nov

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HUD OK's \$28 MILLION GRANT TO START WORK AT FT. LINCOLN

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today announced the approval of a \$28 million urban renewal grant which will enable construction to begin on the Fort Lincoln New Town development, a major element of President Nixon's Bicentennial program for the Nation's Capital.

The HUD grant to the D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency, will cover the cost of site preparation and land development activities on the 360-acre tract in Northeast Washington. It will pave the way for the private firm of Building Systems International, of Dallas, Texas, and Washington, D.C., to begin construction of elements of its comprehensive community development plan for the site.

Land development activities, to be contracted by RLA, will include development of public utilities, internal road systems, and site grading for public buildings. The District of Columbia government is expected to start construction on the first of three elementary schools to be built at ...

Fort Lincoln shortly after the first of the year, following completion of site

grading operations. BSI is scheduled to begin residential construction during the fall of 1973. Scheduled construction starts were contingent upon HUD approval of the RLA grant application.

HUD Assistant Secretary Floyd H. Hyde, whose Office of Community

Development handles the federally aided urban renewal program

said: "the planned New Town-In-Town, one of the first of its kind in the

United States, is seen as an exciting initiative to solving some of the

problems of our Nation's inner city areas. Innovation will be emphasized

at Ft. Lincoln, and will include new approaches to transportation, education,

homeownership, minority involvement, community social services, tele
communications and utility systems."

According to Mr. Hyde, Ft. Lincoln represents a comprehensive and coordinated attempt to bring to bear the resources of many Federal Departments and D.C. agencies in order to create a better urban environment for thousands of people. The Departments of Transportation, Health, Education and Welfare, Labor, Interior and Justice as well as the Small Business Administration and General Services Administration will all contribute to the success of this endeavor.

Approximately 16,000 residents will occupy some 4500 residential units when the project is completed. Approximately 70 percent of the units will be available for sale to both moderate and middle income home buyers. Three community malls, including shopping and public service

facilities will be located on the site and meet not only the needs of Fort Lincoln residents, but those in adjacent northeast sections of the District as well.

Fort Lincoln will offer a wide range of educational opportunities, including three elementary schools, one secondary school, and possibly a satellite campus of the Federal City College. Office space for 6,000 Federal employees, many of whom will live in the Fort Lincoln residential community, will be provided in the Town Center.

Additional features include commemoration of the original Civil
War fort site, a comprehensive system of open and recreational space,
and proposed mass transit linkages between Fort Lincoln and the
Washington metropolitan area.

In June 1972, BSI agreed to the Fort Lincoln 12-point Economic

Opportunity Program, which will provide maximum opportunity for minority involvement in the planning, financing, building and management of the New Town, thereby allowing community representation throughout the development process.

Fort Lincoln will provide a balanced community setting with appropriate housing and employment opportunities for persons of a variety of social and economic backgrounds.

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