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UNIVERSITY CITY II

University City II is a clearance project being carried out under the urban renewal program. It is to provide expansion area for Wayne State University, school and recreation facilities and housing.

The project area is approximately 100 acres, of which only 40 acres is to be acquired. Present re-use plans provide 17 acres to be used for institutional expansion, 5 acres for community facilities, such as parks, and 16 acres for private housing. Wayne has made a verbal committment to allow for private residential development on 10 of its 17 acres.

The project was begun in 1964 and has in the past few nomths received funding. It is anticipated that acquisition will begin late this year. HUD delays have made earlier appraisals out dated and the Housing Commission in currently attempting to get city approval for new appraisals. The necessity for this added procedure will delay aquisition for 4 months or until the middle of November.

From the number of empty, damaged and boarded up buildings, you can tell that the area has been deteriorating rapidly for the past several years. Fire insurance is difficult or impossible to get and many of the property owners are elderly and dependent upon these now largely vacant buildings for their income.

The WSU Mattaei recreation complex to the north of the University City II area is the result of the University City I project. This project is in the process of being closed out.

Immediately to the south of University City II is the Calumet Project area, a moderate income housing project sponsored by the West Central Organization under the provisions of section 221(d)(3) of the 1966 Housing Act. After a long delay, the land for this project has finally been transferred to the Housing Commission from the Board of Education for sale to 700.