

Unity 71 Project Records, 1970-1972

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Community Development
Title	Unity 71 Project Records
Dates	1970-1972 (inclusive) 1970 1972
Quantity	0.8 cubic foot, (2 boxes)
Collection Number	1624-06
Summary	Correspondence, reports, minutes, and maps relating to the Unity 71 Project, an urban development project in Seattle's Central Area, 1970-1972.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English

Historical Note

The Department of Community Development administered the City's comprehensive plan and provided direction and support for the City's physical and economic development through community planning. DCD was established in 1969 and assumed the responsibilities of the City Planning Commission and the Urban Renewal Program. In 1972, the Office of Economic Development was created in the Department to provide information to businesses that were expanding or relocating in Seattle. DCD was the lead agency for implementing various types of grant funded projects, such as Neighborhood Improvement Program, Targeted Neighborhood Assistance Program, and Neighborhood Development Program. DCD was abolished in 1992 and its programs were relocated in the Department of Neighborhoods, Department of Housing and Human Services, Planning Department, and other agencies. DCD records include material from the City Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Metropolitan Arts Commission, Board of Adjustment, and Urban Renewal Program.

Unity 71 was a Model Cities project that was operated by DCD in an effort to rehabilitate and revitalize a small area in the East Model Neighborhood by drawing upon existing City, State and Federal resources rather than creating new service agencies. The project area was bounded by Yesler Way on the south, 17th/18th Avenues on the west, 20th/21st Avenues on the east, and East Fir/Alder Streets on the north.

Unity 71 began in 1969 as a program called "Postage Stamp" intending to "physically and socially" rehabilitate a small residential area in the Model Neighborhood. In 1971, over \$1 million in Model Cities
[Unity 71 Project Records, 1970-1972](#)
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv01379>

funds was authorized for Unity 71, which would attempt to "eliminate physical and environmental blight symptoms" in the chosen area. The Unity 71 fund would finance property purchases, rehabilitation of existing structures, and administrative work for the project. The new DCD positions of Urban Renewal Project Manager, Assistant Urban Renewal Project Manager, and Secretary would implement the project.

An important aspect of the project was its dependence upon the resources of existing agencies to renew a neighborhood by "using innovative procedures and methods." Some of these agencies and programs included the Seattle Model Cities Program, Seattle Urban League, City of Seattle, and Seattle Housing Authority, among many others. Some goals of the project included assisting homeowners in rehabilitation, eliminating "environmental deficiencies and blighting influences," adding housing and community facilities, and improving public utilities and transportation.

Content Description

The Unity 71 Records date from 1970 to 1972 and include correspondence, reports, minutes, contracts, transmittal notices, newspaper clippings, and maps. Information on topics such as acquisition and appraisal of properties, budgets and funding, capital improvements, and redevelopment and rehabilitation (including specifications for the rehabilitation of structures) is included in the records, as well as copies of relevant ordinances and resolutions. Plans and proposals for the project exist for 1971 and 1972, and a land utilization and development study is also included.

The annual activity report discusses the history, scope, objectives, and progress of the project, as well as scheduled activities for the future. Monthly activity reports discuss progress made in areas such as administration, community organization, redevelopment and rehabilitation, property acquisition, and capital improvements. The records also contain copies of the NAHRO Letter, a "weekly dispatch" providing news to National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials members. The records also contain maps of the project area.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Department of Community Development Unity 71 Project Records, Record Series 1624-06. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Unity 71 Project Records, 1970-1972

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Administrative - includes budget and black and white 35 mm negatives	1971
1/2	Annual Report	1971
1/3	Activity Reports - Monthly	1971-1972
1/4	Activity Reports - Quarterly	1971
1/5	Agreements and contracts - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	1971
1/6	Agreements and contracts- Seattle Model City Program (SMCP) / City Demonstration Agency (CDA)	1971
1/7	Agreements and Contracts - Other	1971
1/8	Budget	1971-1972
1/9	Memorandum - Incoming	1971-1972
1/10	Memorandum - Outgoing	1971
1/11	Correspondence - Incoming	1971-1972
1/12	Correspondence - Outgoing	1971-1972
1/13	Appraisal Requests	1971
1/14	Capital Improvements	1971-1972
1/15	Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Handbooks and Procedures	1971
1/16	Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Section 312 Loans	1971
2/1	Maps	1970-1971
2/2	Minutes - Community Meeting	1971

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/3	Minutes - Other	1971-1972
2/4	Newsletters - National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) (includes minutes of 10/15/1971)	1971
2/5	Housing Affairs Letter / The Weekly Washington Report on Housing	1971-1972
2/6	Newsletters - Leschi Neighborhood Development Program	1971-1972
2/7	Postage Stamp Project	1970-1971
2/8	Program Proposal	1971-1972
2/9	Redevelopment Study	1971
2/10	Seattle Model Cities Program (includes map descriptions)	undated
2/11	Utility Undergrounding	1971
2/12	Urban Renewal - Newspaper Articles	1971
2/13	Yesler Atlantic Neighborhood Improvement Plan (YANIP) - Pedestrian Pathway - Analysis	1971

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

City planning--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Civic improvement--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Urban renewal--Washington (State)--Seattle

Corporate Names :

United States. Model Cities Administration

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)--Politics and government

Form or Genre Terms :

Negatives

Other Creators :

Corporate Names :

Unity 71 Project (Seattle, Wash.)
 (creator)

Finding aid prepared by Shannon B. Lynch and Anne Frantilla

Unity 71 Project Records, 1970-1972
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv01379>

