

Notes for Speech

The Appalachian Regional Development Program

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1. *Introductory Comments.* My comments will give the impression that highways are a prime element in the developmental base proposed for Appalachia, since highways are perhaps the most basic regional facility required for the region.
2. *The purpose of the PARC program* is basic development—the program provides certain basic facilities such as highways as a foundation for development, and then provides for fundamental organization and processes to continue the development program in a manner to best utilize the resources.
3. The goal of the PARC program is to enable the region to:
 - A. Devote itself more intensively and comprehensively to development as the basic objective of all programs for a period necessary to:
 - B. Reach a “threshold of growth capability”—that is, reverse economic decline and attain a self-capacity for economic growth.
4. A brief description of the PARC program provisions, includes:
 - First: the special actions needed to create a basic foundation for development in four broad functional categories:
 - A. Highways and transportation
 - B. Water Resources
 - C. Physical Resources (timber, coal, power, agriculture & recreation)
 - D. Human Resources (training, education, health, employment, etc.)
 - Secondly: the provision for a permanent regional organization through which state, federal and local governments, as well as private interest, can work to achieve a continuing program of comprehensive development.

(The Appalachian Regional Commission
The Conference of Appalachian Governors
Local Area Development Districts and Development Councils
Special Organizations)
5. The PARC program provides the basics for a start on development—and at the same time provides a way to continue development action geared to the specific and special needs of the Region. It continues an overall developmental framework in which each special action can function appropriately (in terms of public and other policy) and realistically (in terms of unique realities of the Region).
6. What does the program mean for highway development?
 - A. A new approach to the determination as to where and how and why to build highways (and other “economic facilities”) in relation to
 - I. The practical impact of highways on total economic development, recognizing that highways have varying priorities in different regional situations.
 - II. The change in the impact of a highway, or highway system, when other basic facility construction (dams, industrial sites, etc.) and

other development actions (job training, resource development, etc.) are carried out simultaneously.

III. The design of the highway itself to give the greatest expression to its impact on overall economic development.

7. Thus, the PARC program recommends a new concept, and a construction program to carry it out, to create a "development system of highways" for the Appalachian region. A development highway stem is a road network designed to facilitate the development of an apparent and definable potential for economic development especially where the utilization of such a potential is frustrated by lack of area or regional access. Most regular highway development, to the contrary, is designed to accommodate the needs of development which has already taken place.

8. *Concluding comments.* Need for understanding. This is a creative program. It is a sound program. It is the program which now has a chance to become reality. Brief background on the development of the program itself and close on the absolute need for a unified support of this first real opportunity for Appalachia and Eastern Kentucky. (The need for leadership, creativity and special effort by private industry and local leadership will be stressed.)