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PROVIDENCE, R.I., RANKS HIGH IN REDEVELOPMENT



Providence, Rhode Island — the host city for BOCA's mid-year conference and Public Hearing for 1963 Code changes — has an urban renewal program recently (Sept. 9, 1962) described by a high-ranking HHFA official as "among the top five in the country." Dramatic changes — completed, underway and planned during the past 15 years — are at work to radically transform this 326 year old city, while conserving historic traditions. A multimillion dollar urban renewal program backs the effort that is expected to attract a 77 million dollar investment of private capital within the next five years.

Providence has already completed three redevelopment projects — a record matched by few cities in the nation, and has four others in development and three in planning. In 1959 this city became one of only two in the country to have completed two projects, and in 1961 it became one of two in the United States to have completed three projects.

Also through urban renewal, two major industrial developments have been created: West River Industrial Park, all of its sixty acres now sold to fourteen growing companies: and Huntington Expressway Industrial Park, whose ninety-five acres are still being prepared for construction.

West River has already meant hundreds of new jobs for Providence; when fully operative, it is expected to result in more than one thousand new jobs. Its effect on the tax base has been sensational: before redevelopment, the area produced almost \$30,000 a year in real estate taxes; when construction is complete there it will produce more than \$300,000 annually.

(Continued on Page 5)



