

File No. 70931

September 18, 1939

Mr. J. D. Steele, Chairman,  
Commission on City Plan,  
407 Municipal Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Steele:-

I have your letter of August 24th, requesting an opinion as to the authority of the Commission on City Plan with reference to the approval of plans developed by the Baltimore Housing Authority.

The Baltimore Housing Authority has sole and exclusive power to select housing sites, subject only to the approval of the Board of Estimates. The Commission on City Plan, therefore, has no authority to approve or disapprove the site selected by the Housing Authority for a housing project. As to other plans which may be developed by the Housing Authority with reference to a particular housing project, while it may be that certain of such plans may require the approval of the Commission on City Plan, it is equally certain that many plans developed by the Housing Authority will not require the approval of the Commission on City Plan. For example, the architectural development of a housing project would be one type of a plan of the Housing Authority over which the Commission on City Plan would have no authority.

Of the many plans that would be developed by the Housing Authority in completing a housing project, it is impossible to definitely state just what plans might require your approval since the answer to that problem may depend upon the facts of each particular plan. I would therefore suggest that if you have any particular plan with reference to any particular development in mind you might submit the specific instance to me and I will be only too glad to advise you with reference thereto.

Very truly yours,

(signed) CHARLES C. G. EVANS  
City Solicitor

CCGE/HC