

The foregoing points are further emphasized by the following statement by Professor John T. Howard, a nationally recognized authority on land use planning. "There seems to be every likelihood . . . that if the current standard of acres per thousand persons is valid for the present situation, the future will justify a still higher standard. It would surely be prudently conservative to forecast that our metropolitan areas will need at least 20 acres of natural park and reservation land for each 1,000 inhabitants."<sup>1</sup>

Foresight demands that acquisition of future recreational lands begin now, even though detailed plans for the development and use of the acquired lands have not yet been fully worked out. A precise, detailed understanding of just how lands reserved for future parks and open spaces will ultimately be used is not necessary as a prerequisite to acquisition, provided the general need for such lands is recognized and a program of acquisition

<sup>1</sup> Future Metropolitan Growth and Planning—The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, "Recreation in the Age of Automation," September, 1957, page 36, by John T. Howard.

instituted. Development of concepts of use and preparation of plans for development can very well await the time when pressure for more intensive use of the lands has arisen. Besides, ideas and practices relating to recreational usage may have changed sufficiently by that time to render obsolete any preconceived concepts regarding ultimate detailed usage which may be offered as a justification for present acquisition.

#### **Summary Evaluation of Park Needs in the Baltimore Area**

In summary, it may be said that there is not only a current need to develop more fully the recreational potentialities of the water reservoirs now located in the Baltimore region, but that because of certain restrictions on the use of such areas and the time required to gain professional and public acceptance of such uses, there is a current deficiency of recreational lands in the area of from 10,000 to 16,000 acres and an estimated future deficiency of 36,500 acres by 1980.