CONDEMNATION OF SLUM LAND—ILLEGAL USE AS A FACTOR REDUCING VALUATION

The number of dwelling units in Chicago in need of major repairs or unfit for use\(^1\) is almost equal to the minimum number of new dwelling units required in that area.\(^2\) The need for extensive slum clearance and redevelopment is thus as great as the need for new housing. Public agencies charged with the task of slum clearance face at the outset many land-acquisition problems. One of these difficulties—expensive, drawn-out, and cumbersome condemnation procedures—

\(^1\) The Chicago Plan Commission estimates this number to be about 75,000. Chicago Plan Commission, Housing Goals for Chicago 62 (1946).

\(^2\) A minimum of 85,000 and a maximum of 118,000 new dwelling units are needed. Chicago Plan Commission, op. cit. supra note 1, at 81.