

The Upper Potomac River Commission, established in 1935, consists of three members appointed for six-year terms. The Governor appoints the Chairman, the Commissioners of Allegany County appoint a second member, and the Commissioners of Garrett County appoint a third. The Commission has jurisdiction over the water resources of Allegany County and of Election District Number Four (Bloomington) in Garrett County. In July, 1953, the Commission took charge of the Savage River Dam, erected by the Army Corps of Engineers (Acts 1935, chap. 409; Acts 1936, chap. 6; Acts 1939, chap. 143; Acts 1947, chap. 165).

Public Improvements

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Albert P. Backhaus, Director, 1963
 Garrett O. Billmire, Assistant Director
 Laurence P. Sangston, Principal Architect
 Frank L. Byron, Principal Engineer
 Elizabeth W. Letmate, Executive Secretary

301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore 1

Telephone: Vernon 7-9000

The Department of Public Improvements was created by the Legislature in 1947. The Director of Public Improvements, the designated head of the Department, is appointed by the Governor for a four-year term.

The duties of the Department of Public Improvements consist, in part, of the following: to assist and advise the Board of Public Works and other State agencies on all matters of engineering surveys, plans, specifications, and contracts for public improvements that may come before the Board or in which a State agency may be interested; to select and appoint architects and engineers, subject to approval of the Board of Public Works, to prepare plans and specifications for all public improvements; to assist the State Planning Commission in the development of technical details necessary for the preparation of the Capital Improvement Program; to collect and maintain a file of plats and surveys of the location of all public improvements; and to represent the Board of Public Works at the opening of all bids for public improvements and tabulate, record, and advise the Board of such bids. The Department maintains an inspection division with representation on all major projects to insure adherence to established standards and specifications (Code 1957, Art. 78A, secs. 17-25).

Board of Architectural Review

Wilmer Chance, Peter G. Christie, Paul L. Gaudreau, Francis H. Jencks, Jackson P. Ketcham, Charles Lamb, Charles M. Nes, Jr.

The Board of Architectural Review consists of seven members appointed for four-year terms by the Director of the Department of Public Improvements from a list of nominations submitted by the Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The Board advises the Department of Public Improvements about specifications related to proper architectural treatment of proposed buildings. The Board also reviews all architectural designs and drawings and recommends any changes necessary to make the proposed buildings functional and practical for the use intended (Code 1957, Art. 78A, sec. 23).

Appropriations	1959	1960
General Funds	\$333,577	\$338,178
Staff: 47.		