

ties); the Southern Region (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties); the Western Region (Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, and Washington counties); and the Baltimore City Region. Initially, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Delegates each made five appointments to the Board, one from each region. The President of the Senate designated the chairperson of this temporary board, and the chairperson called the first annual meeting. At this meeting held on February 16, 1961, and at each annual meeting thereafter, members of the Corporation from at least three of the five economic regions elect two directors from each region, for one-year terms. These directors must be U.S. citizens and residents of the economic region from which they are appointed or must maintain a regular place of business there. The stockholders of the Corporation elect the remaining five directors, who must be U.S. citizens and residents of the State, for one-year terms. The Board elects its own chairperson. The Corporation may borrow or lend money and buy, hold, or sell real or personal property, including industrial plants and other business establishments.

The Corporation has established Loan Committees of five members for each economic region. After a loan application has been received by the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, the loans are then discussed with the Regional Loan Committees who review the applications and join with the Chief Executive Officer in making recommendations to the Board of Directors or Executive Committee. Final decision lies with either of these bodies (Code 1957, Art. 23, secs. 412-429).

DIVISION OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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The Division of Local and Regional Development was established in July 1976 to provide more effective management and coordination of the Department's assistance to local governments and regional organizations in their efforts to develop and implement economic development,

housing, and historical-cultural programs. In cooperation with local officials, the Division also provides training and management systems assistance aimed at strengthening the management capacity of local units of government.

In providing assistance, the Division places primary emphasis on those local or regional programs for which the Department can deliver specific resources and/or programs for which the Department is capable of obtaining or coordinating use of related State and federal resources.

The Division helps local and regional officials identify development problems or issues, assess alternative courses of action, design specific action programs, and obtain Department, other state, and federal resources useful in implementing development programs.

As a clearinghouse for Departmental services to sub-State units of government, the Division coordinates State and local involvement with a number of federal programs related to economic development, housing, and historical-cultural matters.

The Division's Office of Regional Programs administers Maryland's Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) development program and grant process to ensure full use of available ARC resources designed to stimulate economic and community development projects and activities in Western Maryland.

To facilitate liaison with the three western counties of the State, the Division maintains the Department's Western Maryland Regional Development Office in Hagerstown.

The Division undertakes responsibilities for the Department as the designated State agency for coordination of Economic Development Administration (EDA) programs in Maryland through assistance aimed at implementation of an Economic Development Planning Program. It coordinates the submission of development projects for funding by EDA.

The Division also carries out responsibilities for the Department as the Governor's designated State liaison agency with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for implementation of the Federal Community Development Block Grant Program and the Urban Development Action Grant program in Maryland. Direct technical assistance is provided to local governments and regional organizations to help them develop plans and applications for these programs. In addition, the Division assists local