

with the county providing such services as water and sewage removal in areas not already served by municipalities. In other instances, the county has been given a substantially exclusive role in such functions as planning and zoning. In two counties, Baltimore and Howard, the absence of incorporated municipalities has required the county government to assume full responsibility for urban planning and services.

In other states, the most significant example of a comprehensive urban county plan is that of metropolitan Miami, which was instituted in Dade County, Florida, in July, 1957, by a heavy majority of the electorate. The approval of this plan was preceded by overcoming two barriers which have thus far proved insurmountable in most states: state constitutional authorization to draft a county charter and local voter approval of the subsequent draft document.

The metropolitan Miami charter provides for county-wide administration of sewage collection and disposal; water supply and conservation; planning of arterial roads, bridges, and tunnels; mass transportation; traffic control; urban renewal; and other functions. Each municipality in the county may exercise all powers relating to local affairs not inconsistent with the county charter. Each may provide for higher standards of zoning, service, and regulation than those provided for the entire

area in order to preserve its individual character and standards.

Other communities have explored or initiated the idea of strengthening the county as a major urban unit. In Cleveland, a plan to consolidate a number of area-wide functions under the county government was proposed, but was turned down by the voters in 1959 by a narrow margin. New steps are now underway to provide an acceptable formula for urban county development in Cleveland.

An additional technique for providing services in urban areas is that of the special *authority*, a corporate entity authorized to conduct one or more specific services in prescribed area. In Maryland, the most notable example of this technique is the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, an authority which provides water, sewage removal, trash collection, and certain related services primarily in the bi-county area adjacent to Washington, D. C. The authority technique is most often criticized for its lack of responsiveness to residents and elected officials in the areas it serves. It is most often recommended for the ease with which it can be created to resolve a major urban problem in a given area. With the increasing role of the county in urban services in Maryland, the authority is today more often proposed as a solution to metropolitan rather than county or county-municipal urban service problems.

THE "METROPOLITAN" URBAN SETTING: INTERCOUNTY AND REGIONAL SERVICES

While there is still much attention focused on problems of urban services at the municipal and county levels, the most challenging questions of urban governmental and service development are those which involve bi-county and

larger geographic areas.

I. Techniques of Geographic Change.
Unlike municipalities, which were originally designed and enabled to expand geographically, counties, as they are defined in Maryland today, are geo-