

Board of Health, 1955; Russell H. McCain, Chairman, State Roads Commission, 1955; Davis C. Burrough, Eastern Shore, 1955; John B. Funk, Western Maryland, 1954; Thomas B. Symons, Southern Maryland, 1953.

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The Maryland State Planning Commission, established in 1933, consists of the President of the Legislative Council and the Director of the Department of Public Improvements as ex-officio members and seven members appointed by the Governor for terms of four years. Of the seven appointive members one must be the Director or a member of the State Board of Public Welfare, one must be the Director or a member of the State Board of Health, one the Chief Engineer or a member of the State Roads Commission, one must be a resident of the Eastern Shore, one a resident of Central Maryland including Baltimore City, one a resident of Southern Maryland, and one a resident of Western Maryland.

The functions of this Commission are to prepare or coordinate plans for the physical development of the State including plans for complete systems of State or regional highways, expressways, parkways, parks, water supply and forest reservations and airways and air terminals; to advise with State departments and bureaus, local authorities and individuals, with a view to the coordination of all physical development plans related to State activities; to make surveys of rural land utilization to determine areas suitable for field crops, reforestation, watershed protection, recreation, summer residence and urban expansion, to prepare a long-term development program of major State improvements; and generally, to make available information on subjects affecting the health and welfare of the people of Maryland. The Commission maintains a current inventory of study and research conducted by State agencies, in behalf, or in the interests, of the State (Code 1947 Supp., Art. 88C, secs. 1-8).

To carry out these functions the Commission is currently: (1) studying the nursing needs of the State; (2) surveying the capital improvement needs of the various State agencies and the financial problems pertaining thereto; (3) developing a master recreation plan of the State in cooperation with the Department of Forests and Parks; (4) surveying the recreation potentials of Western Maryland; (5) continuing its collection of economic and social trends within the State; (6) serving in an advisory capacity for local and regional planning and zoning agencies; (7) cooperating with out-of-state firms seeking new locations, and maintaining for this purpose a current inventory of vacant industrial plants in Maryland; (8) assisting municipal and county groups in preparing evaluations of their communities to further their economic growth.

The Commission has recently completed a plan for the development of the Patapsco River Valley Park. Research reports and studies completed within the past year or currently in progress include: a