

STATE ROADS COMMISSION

Chairman: Russell H. McCain

Avery W. Hall, David M. Nichols

Charles R. Pease, Secretary

Albert S. Gordon, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

William F. Childs, Jr., Chief Engineer

Carl L. Wannan, Comptroller

William A. Codd, Chief Auditor

Joseph D. Buscher, Special Assistant to the Attorney
General

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The State Roads Commission was established in 1908 succeeding to the highway survey functions of the Maryland Geological and Economic Survey. The Commission consists of three members, appointed by, and holding office at the pleasure of, the Governor. One of the members must be a resident of the Eastern Shore, one a resident of the Western Shore, and one a resident of Baltimore City, or a person who, at the time of his appointment and for a period of at least two years prior thereto, has continuously had his principal place of business, or employment or professional activity in Baltimore City. At least one member must be affiliated with one of the two leading political parties different from that to which the Governor belongs (Code 1947 Supp. Art. 89B, sec. 1).

The State Roads Commission has jurisdiction over the construction, maintenance and administration of the State highway system; and in addition, maintains, constructs, or reconstructs the road systems of eleven of the twenty-three counties of the State. It is responsible for the making of preliminary surveys and plans for the construction of any proposed highway, making final reviews of those plans and making necessary recommendations for the specifications and special provisions which may become a part of the contract. Through the Maintenance Division, the Commission provides the necessary resurfacing, drainage, traffic service, and snow removal of the highways included in the State's system. The agency, through its Materials Division conducts and makes tests of all materials used in the construction and maintenance of the highways and bridges and in the maintenance of the Ferry System. A Traffic Division is also maintained by the Commission for the purpose of making traffic counts, traffic origin and destination surveys, and such other surveys as are necessary to determine the need of highway improvement, the need for traffic signals, warning signs, and other traffic service devices. The department also prepares State and individual county road maps. The Construction Division is responsible, through the Division of Road Design, for the making of surveys, preparation of plans, the preparation of quantities for bid proposals, final surveys, and final estimates; and through the Division of Bridge Design for similar preparatory and final quantities in connection with the design and construction of bridges; and for the construction of highways and bridges in full conformity with the contract, specifications, and plans. The Right of Way Division is responsible for acquiring of the rights of way essential to the modernization of the existing highways and bridges, as well as, that required for new highways and bridges.