

Advisory Council on Highway Construction

Chairman: Dr. Abel Wolman

Charles S. Garland, E. Asbury Davis

The Advisory Council on Highway Construction was appointed by the Governor in February 1951, to consult with and advise the members of the State Roads Commission in the planning of highway construction and to aid the Commission in such other matters under its supervision as it may deem necessary.

Financing the State Roads System

The State Roads Commission administers all funds for the construction, maintenance and operation of the highway network under its jurisdiction.

The General Assembly of 1947 authorized the issuance of State Highway Construction Bonds in a total amount of \$100,000,000 to supplement revenues of the Construction Fund in order to meet the requirements of an expanded road construction program. The State Roads Commission has sold through December 31, 1950, \$50,000,000 of bonds under this authorization.

The Legislature of 1947 further authorized the issuance of Revenue Bonds for the purpose of constructing toll bridges, tunnels, and roads, and the consolidation of the income from any two or more projects for the support of the bonded debt. The selection of the route as a toll road or the project as a toll bridge must be made in accordance with the specific provisions of the law (Code 1947, Art. 89B, secs. 122A-122U).

Revenues derived from the State Roads Commission representing fifty percent share of Gasoline Tax Fund distributions and the excise tax on issuance of Certificates of Title for Motor Vehicles are pledged for debt service on an authorized issue of \$100,000,000 of State Highway Construction Bonds; any remainder of such revenues, together with Federal appropriations, contributions from the counties, and proceeds from the sale of State Highway Construction Bonds, is available for the construction of highways and bridges, exclusive of toll projects. Under certain conditions a sum not in excess of \$2,000,000 may be transferred in any fiscal year from the Construction Fund to the Maintenance Fund, such funds to be used for the maintenance and operation of the State highway system.

The State Roads Commission also receives a fifty percent share of the Motor Vehicle Revenue Fund distributions for paying such expenses as are not allocable to projects, for maintenance and operation of the State Highway System, and for other maintenance (Code 1947 Supp., Art. 66½, sec. 25A(c); Art. 89, secs. 11, 16).

Toll Facilities

The State Roads Commission operates three toll facilities consisting of two bridges and a ferry system.

Susquehanna River Bridge

Abram S. Wilson, Superintendent

Havre de Grace

The Susquehanna River Bridge crosses the Susquehanna River from a point near Perryville in Cecil County to a point near Havre