

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chairman: Herbert W. Wells, 1962

Vice-Chairman: J. Newton Brewer, Jr., 1961

Donald E. Gingery, 1960; Mrs. Russell Wiltbank, 1960; John A. Scheibel, 1961; W. Lawson King, 1962; John A. Floyd, 1963; Louis A. Gravelle, 1963; John B. Lauer, 1963; John L. Pyles, 1963.

Jesse F. Nicholson, Secretary-Treasurer

Charles M. Irelan, General Counsel

Thomas J. Burke, Director of Public Relations

Arthur K. Stellhorn, Director of Planning

John P. Hewitt, Director of Parks

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This Commission has general planning and park jurisdiction over the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District created in 1927 and the Maryland-Washington Regional District created in 1939. Both districts are within Montgomery and Prince George's counties adjoining the District of Columbia and embrace approximately 223 square miles and 779 square miles, respectively. The 1959 estimated population of the entire Regional District in both counties exceeds 700,000 persons.

The 1959 estimated taxable basis of the Montgomery County portion of the Regional District is \$988,000,000 and of the Metropolitan District, \$899,000,000. The 1959 estimated taxable basis of the Prince George's County portion of the Regional District is \$629,000,000 and of the Metropolitan District, \$525,000,000.

The Commission has been given, through bi-county enactments of the Maryland General Assembly, definite jurisdiction over the regional planning of the Maryland-Washington Regional District, which includes all of Montgomery County and all of suburban Prince George's County.

The Commission, newly enlarged, is composed of ten members, five of whom must be residents of Montgomery County and five residents of Prince George's County. Not more than three members from each County may be members of the same political party and at least one member from each County must be a resident of the predominately agricultural portion of the County. The governing body of each County appoints five members of the Commission. Appointments to the new Commission were made on June 15, 1957, upon which date the terms of office began. The terms are for four years except that the terms of the members first appointed expired, or will expire, on the following dates: one from each County on June 14, 1958; two from each County on June 14, 1959; one from each County on June 14, 1960 and one from each County on June 14, 1961. Any vacancy in the membership of the Commission must be filled by the governing body of the County in which the vacancy occurs and for the unexpired term. The Commission elects its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The respective appointing authorities may at their discretion designate a member of the Commission from each County to serve on a full-time basis. The five members of the Commission from each County constitute the County Planning Board. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Commission also act as Chairmen, respectively, of their County Planning Boards. The Commission must appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, General Counsel, Director of Planning, Director of Parks, and a Director of Public Relations and may appoint a Director of Land Acquisition as well as such other staff members as may be necessary. It maintains regional offices in both counties.

Within the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District, the Commission is empowered to acquire, develop, maintain, and operate a park