

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman: Herbert W. Wells, 1962

Vice Chairman: J. Newton Brewer, Jr., 1965

W. Lawson King, 1962; John A. Floyd, 1963; Louis A. Gravelle, 1963; John B. Lauer, 1963; John L. Pyles, 1963; Donald E. Gingery, 1964; Mrs. Russell Wiltbank, 1964; John A. Scheibel, 1965.

Jesse F. Nicholson, Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer

B. Houston McCaney, General Counsel

Joshua B. Zatman, 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 by Chapter 448, Acts of 1927, and the Maryland-Washington Regional District created by Chapter 714, Acts of 1939. Both districts are within Montgomery and Prince George's counties adjoining the District of Columbia and embrace approximately 274 square miles and 906 square miles, respectively. The 1961 estimated population of the entire Regional District exceeds 700,000.

The 1961 estimated taxable basis of the Montgomery County portion of the Regional District is \$1,171,000,000 of the Lower Metropolitan District, \$1,055,000,000, and of the Upper Metropolitan District, \$635,000,000.

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 most of Prince George's County.

The Commission 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 Commission are for four year terms. 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 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 appoints its Executive Director, 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 system with recreational facilities, the expense of which, including debt service, is paid from a separate park tax levied within the District. The Commission is authorized to cooperate and negotiate with Federal agencies for financial assistance under the terms