

The State Soil Conservation Committee, established by Chapter 436, Acts of 1937, and as amended from time to time since that date, consists of the Chairman of the State Board of Agriculture or other member of the Board he may designate, the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Director of the Agriculture Extension Service, the Dean of the College of Agriculture, the Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fish, the Director of the Department of Forests and Parks, the State Conservationist of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, and two Soil Conservation District Supervisors appointed by the State Board of Agriculture for a one-year term. The committee selects its officers, and its duties include (1) rendering assistance to the supervisors of the several soil conservation districts, (2) providing information about the experiences and activities of the several districts, (3) coordinating the programs of the districts, (4) securing cooperation of the various Federal and State agencies in the work of the districts, (5) disseminating information about soil conservation throughout the State, and (6) organizing new soil conservation districts where advisable. It has organized soil conservation districts in all counties of the State (Code 1957, 1965 Supp., Art. 66C, sec. 91).

Appropriations	1965	1966
General Funds	\$122,536	\$112,802
Staff: 2.		

Public Improvements

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Albert P. Backhaus, Director, 1967
 Garrett O. Billmire, Assistant Director
 Laurence P. Sangston, Principal Architect
 Frank L. Byron, Principal Engineer
 Edwin J. Trexler, Assistant to the Director
 Elizabeth W. Letmate, Executive Secretary

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The Department of Public Improvements was created by Chapter 171, Acts of 1947. The Director of Public Improvements, the designated head of the Department, is appointed by the Governor for a four-year term.

The duties of the Department of Public Improvements consist, in part, of the following: to assist and advise the Board of Public Works and other State agencies on all matters of engineering surveys, plans, specifications, and contracts for public improvements that may come before the Board or in which a State agency may be interested; to select and appoint architects and engineers, subject to approval of the Board of Public Works, to prepare plans and specifications for all public improvements; to assist the State Planning Commission in the development of technical details necessary for the preparation of the Capital Improvement Program; to collect and maintain a file of plats and surveys of the location of all public improvements; and to represent the Board of Public Works at the opening of all bids for public improvements and tabulate, record, and advise the Board of such bids. The Department maintains an inspection division with representation on all major projects to insure adherence to established standards and specifications (Code 1957, Art. 78A, secs. 17-25).