

Appointed members: C. Bowie Rose, Member-at-Large; Joseph W. Alton, Jr., and Earle S. Harder, Anne Arundel County; Frank X. Gallagher and M. Peter Moser, Baltimore City; Jervis S. Finney and Francis W. Iglehart, Jr., Baltimore County; Horace S. Brauning, Sr., and Celius L. Brown, Carroll County; Abe Davis and P. Mitchell Coale, Harford County; Charles E. Miller and Wilmer M. Sanner, Howard County.

Executive Director: Douglas C. Turnbull, Jr.  
 Director of Planning: Franz J. Vidor

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The Regional Planning Council was created by Chapter 753, Acts of 1963, as the official successor to the Baltimore Regional Planning Council, which was terminated in August 1964. The prior agency had been operating as an arm of the State Planning Department since 1956.

The Council's area of jurisdiction covers Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. Its membership of 20 persons consists of two representatives from each of these six political subdivisions, the Director of the State Planning Department, the Chairman-Director of the State Roads Commission, a member of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, a member of the Maryland Port Authority, a member of the State Senate, a member of the House of Delegates, and two members-at-large. The last four members are appointed by the Governor. Of the two members from each of the six political subdivisions, one is a member of the local legislative body, while the other is a member of the local planning commission.

The Regional Planning Council is to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan for the development of the Region. The plan must contain a statement of objectives, standards and principles, recommendations for the most desirable general pattern of land use, a circulation pattern, a suggested general location for public and quasi-public facilities which are of regional concern, and recommendations for regulatory and administrative measures to implement the General Development Plan. In addition, the Regional Planning Council has the usual research and advisory functions associated with planning agencies.

Once the General Development Plan has been adopted by the Regional Planning Council, no plan may be adopted by any unit of government within the area, and "no road, park, public way, public buildings, or any other development which is metropolitan or regional in nature or affects an area greater than a single unit of government, may be constructed or authorized in the Regional Planning Area until and unless the proposed location and extent thereof has been referred to the Regional Planning Council for its consideration". It was thus the intent of the Legislature that the Regional Planning Council be consulted on every improvement which directly affects more than one unit of government, that it have an opportunity to determine what effect such a contemplated improvement will have on the General Development Plan, without, however, giving the Council an actual veto power.

The Regional Planning Council receives two-thirds of its budget from the six political subdivisions of the Region and one-third from the State. The portion of each of the subdivision's share of the budget must be in the same ratio as their respective assessed value of real property is to the total for the Region; in no event can it be an amount which exceeds the amount that would be produced by a levy of an ad valorem tax of  $\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$  per \$100 (Code 1957, 1965 Supp., Art. 78C).