

Howard County: Alva S. Baker, for Mr. Murphy; E. Holmes Hawkins, Jr., for Mr. Miller.

Executive Director: Robert N. Young

Assistant Director: George B. McGimsey

Assistant Director: W. Wilson Horst

Assistant Director: Randolph G. Whittle, Jr.

701 St. Paul Street, Baltimore 21202

Telephone: 383-3010

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.

By Chapter 7, Acts of 1967, the requirements for membership on the Council were changed so as to provide that a majority of the Council members must be "elected officials." This change qualifies the Regional Planning Council to be a recipient of Section 701g funds under the Federal Housing and Urban Development Act. The 1967 amendment also made the Policy Committee of the Area Coordinating Committees on Regional Development (ACCORD) and the Regional Planning Council one and the same. The ACCORD Committee fulfills a requirement of the Federal Highway Act of 1962 and is responsible for coordinating the transportation and highway programs with other planning activities. Its fusion with the Regional Planning Council simplifies the decision-making and review processes in the Baltimore Region regarding transportation and highway matters.

The Council's area of jurisdiction covers Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. Its membership of twenty-six persons consists of three representatives from each of these six member jurisdictions, 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 three members from each of the six jurisdictions, the following are members: the Mayor of the City of Baltimore, the County Executives of Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties, the President of the Baltimore City Council, the Chairman of the County Council in Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties, a member of the Boards of County Commissioners from Carroll, Harford and Howard counties, and a member of the Planning Commissions or advisory boards of each of the six member jurisdictions. The elected officials representing the six member political subdivisions have the right to designate an alternate to act in their absence.

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