

**GREATER BALTIMORE CONSOLIDATED
FOOD MARKET AUTHORITY**Chairman: *Vacancy*Vice Chairman: *Vacancy*

Ex officio members: Robert E. Wagner, Extension Service, University of Maryland; Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury.

Appointed members: *Vacancy*, 1972; *Vacancy*, 1973; Henry L. Hein, 1974; W. Robert Wallis, 1975; *Vacancy*, 1976.

J. Gary Lee, Executive Director

Ruth N. Hasal, Executive Secretary

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The Greater Baltimore Consolidated Food Market Authority, created by Chapter 145, Acts of 1967, is to establish, construct, erect, acquire, repair, remodel, add to, extend, improve, equip, operate and maintain a consolidated food market within the Greater Baltimore Region. The new Authority will assume the liabilities of the New Marsh Wholesale Produce Market Authority.

The Authority consists of seven members of whom two are ex officio and five are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for five-year terms. One term expires each year. Any member may be reappointed. One member represents Howard County. The Authority is to select its own officers but the Secretary need not be a member of the Authority. The same Act also created an Advisory Council which consists of eleven members. This Council is composed of representatives of the seafood, butter, eggs and dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, groceries and poultry distributors, commercial storage, transportation, and growers. The Director of the Extension Service and the Comptroller of the Treasury are ex officio members of the Council.

The Council has acquired 398 acres of land at the intersection of U. S. Route 1 and Maryland Route 175 in Howard County for the development of a single consolidated food market to serve as well as to protect the health and safety of consumers in Maryland. It is estimated that between \$75,000,000 and \$85,000,000 will be invested in food distribution facilities by the completion of the project. Eventually, all except about \$7,000,000 of this amount will be invested by private enterprise.

The original Act provided \$4,000,000 in State general obligation bonds for land acquisition and development. An additional \$5,000,000 in construction funds for the Wholesale Food Market was provided by Chapter 409, Acts of 1969. The use of these funds has been extended for two years (Chapter 570, Acts of 1971).

The immediate goal of the Authority is to construct a modern, efficient, wholesale market to accommodate most of the nearly 130 food firms doing business in the five scattered market areas in Baltimore. The Inner Harbor renewal program in Baltimore City will displace the bulk of the food wholesale firms and is the influencing factor in the Authority's attempt to consolidate all wholesale food operations in one location. This consolidation effort is based upon the recommendations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture after a two-year investigation of Baltimore's antiquated, inefficient, and in many instances, unsanitary markets. The concept of a modern consolidated food market has been successfully adopted by most of the large metropolitan areas of the country.

The Authority has completed the grading of 186 acres of its property and commenced the construction of roads and water, sewer,