

STATE AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Robert J. Aaronson, Administrator

P.O. Box 8755, Friendship International
Airport, Maryland 21240

Telephone: 768-9520

The State Aviation Administration was created by Chapter 526, Acts of 1970, as a unit of the Department of Transportation, replacing the State Aviation Commission established by Chapter 318, Acts of 1939. It is responsible for developing and operating airports and for fostering and regulating aeronautical activity within the State.

The Administrator is appointed by the Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the Governor, and serves at the Secretary's pleasure.

Under Chapter 180 of the Acts of 1972, the operation of Friendship International Airport, the State's major air carrier facility, was assigned to the State Aviation Administration. As authorized by this legislation, Friendship International Airport was purchased from Baltimore City by the State of Maryland on July 26, 1972 for \$36 million. The same act abolished the Friendship International Airport Authority originally created by Chapter 529, Acts of 1970. The Administration is carrying out a major improvement and promotional program for this regional Airport, requiring a total investment of approximately \$50 million by the end of 1976, to meet present and future air travel needs and to assure its continued and expanded contribution to the economy of the entire State. Costs of operating and improving the facility are reimbursed to the State's Department of Transportation Trust Fund through user charges, space rentals and concession fees. An updated master plan for the future development of Friendship International Airport will be completed by 1975.

The State Aviation Administration inspects and licenses commercial airports, air schools and air school instructors for safe operation, and registers aircraft and pilots. It fosters safety in aviation through its publications—the newsletter "Flight Plan," a directory of Maryland airports, and a Maryland aeronautical chart—and through educational seminars for pilots and mechanics.

The Administration provides technical and financial assistance to airport sponsors and owners in the preparation of master plans and in improvements to facilities. Standardized runway markings are applied and maintained at airports throughout the State. A Maryland Aviation System Plan, to be completed in 1975, is being prepared in cooperation with the Systems Planning staff in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and other State and local agencies (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 1A; 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 207B).

Appropriations	1973	1974
Special Funds	\$7,530,874	\$14,126,308
Federal Funds	516,567	2,866,500
Total	\$8,047,441	\$16,992,808

Staff: 252.

AIRPORT ZONING BOARD

Chairman: *Vacancy*

Richard M. Drake, 1974; Thomas E. Riggan, 1975; Jerome D. Grant, 1976; Leon A. Shavitz, 1976; Marshall M. Meyer, 1977.