

rapid transit system for the national capital area. That metrorail system, known as Metro, opened in 1976 with a single line less than five miles long. In December 1993, a new four-station segment opened to Greenbelt, Maryland. Now, Metro is an 89.5-mile rail system of five lines, serving 74 stations linking Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia. Upon completion, the system will be 103 miles long.

Congress, the General Assemblies of Maryland and Virginia, and the City Council of the District of Columbia have authorized the Authority to acquire and operate all mass transit bus facilities in the Washington, DC, region. The Authority also maintains a regular police force to protect patrons, personnel, and property.

The Authority is governed by a six-member Board of Directors (and six alternate directors). Each Compact signatory appoints two members. Board members and alternates serve terms coterminous with their service as members of their appointing bodies. The Authority's chief administrative officer is the General Manager (Code Transportation Article, secs. 10-202 through 10-204).

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

Chairperson: Howard C. Davenport, District of Columbia

Appointed by Governor of Maryland: Lilo K. Schiffer

Appointed by Governor of Virginia: Preston C. Shannon

William H. McGilvery, *Executive Director*

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The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission was established in 1961 to regulate the commercial transportation of passengers in the Washington, DC, Metropolitan District. The Commission was created by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact, an agreement among Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia. Maryland ratified the Compact in 1959 (Chapter 613, Acts of 1959). Amended by Maryland in its entirety in 1988, the revised compact became effective in February 1991 after ratification by Virginia and the District of Columbia (Chapter 273, Acts of 1988).

The Commission prescribes fares, regulations, and practices of transportation companies and interstate taxicabs in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit District. The District, created by the Compact, embraces the District of Columbia; the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church, Virginia; Arlington and Fairfax counties, Virginia; and Montgomery and Prince George's counties, Maryland.

Expenses of the Commission are allocated annually in proportion to the population of each signatory in the Metropolitan District. Maryland's share in Fiscal Year 1994 is 46.11 percent.

The Commission has three members. One is appointed by the Governor of Maryland from the Maryland Public Service Commission. The Governor of Virginia appoints one from the Virginia State Corporation Commission. One is appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia from the District Public Service Commission. Each member's term coincides with the term of office in the agency from which the member is selected (Code Transportation Article, sec. 10-203).