

2. Advise with the various state departments and bureaus and with local authorities and individuals, with a view to the co-ordination of all physical development plans, from whatever source originating, that are related to state activities.

3. Make surveys of rural land utilization with a view to the determination, among other things, of the areas suitable for field crops, for reforestation, for watershed protection, for recreation, for summer residence, and for urban expansion.

4. Draft for submission to the General Assembly such regulations affecting the use and development of property as are deemed reasonable and necessary in the interest of orderly and co-ordinated development, of preserving the integrity of officially approved plans, or of conserving the natural resources of the state.

5. Collect and publish information relating to welfare problems affecting the people of the State of Maryland, and make such recommendations thereon to the General Assembly as may seem advisable and proper.

All public officials shall upon request furnish to such commission within a reasonable time such available information as it may require for its work. The commission, its members, officials and employees in the performance of their functions, may enter upon any land and make examinations and surveys and place and maintain necessary monuments and marks thereon. In general, the commission shall have such powers as may be necessary to enable it to fulfill its functions, promote state planning, or carry out the purposes of this Article.

Every state department, commission, board or official, before requesting a legislative or executive approval of a plan or the authorization of an appropriation for a major public improvement related to or affected by any general plan or plans prepared under authority of this Article, or before requesting a change of use or disposition of real property owned by the state or in which the state has an interest, shall make a written request to such planning commission for its recommendations, and shall give such commission a reasonable opportunity to study and make its recommendations thereon.

1933 (Special Sess.), ch. 39, sec. 3.

3. The State Planning Commission shall prepare and submit to the General Assembly for adoption plans for a system of existing and proposed state highways and parkways, together with regulations essential to promote an appropriate, orderly and co-ordinated development of lands along or adjacent to such highways and parkways. Such plans and regulations shall be designed to promote health, safety and the general welfare; to facilitate the movement of through traffic; to provide for the accommodation of local traffic, cross traffic and traffic to and from the abutting frontages; to establish front yard or setback lines along abutting frontages; to regulate the location of filling stations, garages, lunch stands, outdoor advertising signs and other uses of property along the adjacent frontages; to regulate the sub-division of land along or adjacent to such highways and parkways; and to conserve scenic and historic places and the natural beauty of the countryside. Such plans and regulations may be adjusted to the varying conditions throughout the state and to the character of existing official plans and regulations in force in any county or municipality. Before approving of such plans and regulations for submission to the General Assembly the Planning Commission shall hold