

at least once in each year by certified public accountants, and the cost thereof shall be treated as an operating expense.

(d) *Incurring Obligations.* All expenses and obligations incurred by the Authority in carrying out the provisions of this Article shall be payable solely from funds provided under the authority of this Article or any other law or from funds which the Authority is entitled to receive under any legal instrument or from any other source, and no liability or obligation shall be incurred by the Authority under the provisions of this Article beyond the extent to which money has been provided under the provisions of this Article or any other law or money which the Authority is legally entitled to receive under any legal instrument or from any other source. **THE STATE OF MARYLAND SHALL NOT BUDGET OR PROVIDE ANY FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE AUTHORITY OR FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MASS TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES OR ANY OTHER PROPERTY WHICH THE AUTHORITY MAY LAWFULLY ACQUIRE.**

(e) *Property and Subdivisions.* All counties, cities, towns, and other political subdivisions within the Area and all public agencies and commissions of the State, notwithstanding any contrary provisions of law now or hereafter in effect, are authorized and empowered to sell, lease, rent, lend, grant, or convey to the Authority at its request, upon such terms and conditions as the proper authorities of such counties, cities, towns, political subdivisions, agencies, or commissions of the State may deem reasonable and fair, any real or personal property which may be necessary or convenient to the effectuation of the authorized purposes of the Authority, including property already devoted to public use.

### 13. General Financing of Authority.

(a) Every mass transit or transportation system, the supervising, jurisdiction and control over which is vested in the Metropolitan Transit Authority, shall pay a seat tax fee to the Authority, the same to be used by the Authority in defraying its necessary ADMINISTRATIVE expenses. The payment of such a seat tax fee shall be in lieu of any such fee heretofore levied, paid or payable, by such mass transportation system, mass transit system or companies of the State of Maryland. The annual seat tax fee payable under this Article shall be at the rate of \$4.00 per seat, per vehicle used by mass transit or transportation company. The annual seat tax fee shall be paid in semi-annual installments in the months of June and December of each year for the current year, beginning ~~in June, 1951~~ JULY 1, 1961.

(b) There is hereby imposed upon every legal entity operating or maintaining a mass transit or transportation system in the Metropolitan Area an annual fee or charge in an amount equal to one-twentieth of one per cent (1/20%) of the gross receipts derived from the mass transportation operations within the Metropolitan Area of any such legal entity for the preceding year. The fee or charge shall be payable on or before April 1st in any year, with the computation based upon the gross receipts of the preceding year. Such fee or charge shall be paid directly to the Authority and shall be used by it for general purposes. **ANY CARRIER REQUIRED TO PAY THE ANNUAL FEE HEREUNDER SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO**