

or any political subdivision thereof is pledged to the payment of the principal or of the interest on such bonds.

(O) THE AUTHORITY SHALL BE LIABLE FOR SUIT FOR NEGLIGENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF ITS OWN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

*15. Contract for superintendence.*

*The Authority may make a contract for superintendence with any corporation which has executive personnel with experience and skill applicable to the superintendence of the operation and maintenance of any part of the system for the furnishing of its services and the services of experienced and qualified personnel for the superintendence of the operation and maintenance of the system or any part thereof, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, superintendence over personnel, purchases, properties and operations and matters relating thereto, and any revenue bond indenture may require such contract. No such contract shall extend beyond the term of three years or such longer time as there are outstanding any revenue bonds under an indenture which required such contract. In any such contract with a corporation for superintending services, the duties of such corporation shall be designated. Neither such contract, nor the corporation which is a party thereto with respect to its rights and duties thereunder, shall be subject to control or regulation by the Public Service Commission or by any political subdivision of the State of Maryland other than by the Authority as provided in such contract.*

*16- 15. General Authority.*

*(a) The Authority and its officers and agents may perform such acts and enter into agreements, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary or desirable in connection with the duties and powers conferred upon the Authority by this Article, in the matter of acquiring, constructing, completing, maintaining, operating, repairing, or insuring or replacing the system or any part thereof acquired, constructed, or completed under this Article, for the safeguarding of funds and revenues required for this Article, and for the payment of the revenue bonds issued pursuant to this Article.*

*(b) In the event economic engineering studies of the Authority show public transportation needs to exist in specific areas but that studies of feasibility do not show sufficient incomes to support the required financing by revenue bonds, the Authority in cooperation with public agencies within said area shall determine the boundaries of a transportation district within the Metropolitan Area which requires such services and through duly constituted powers of local agencies propose and support the creation of said transportation district with powers provided by voters for the taxation of property and the financing of said district through general obligation bonds adequate to engineer, construct and operate such required system of transportation. The said district may operate such facilities independently for the benefit of the people or, by contract or otherwise, may enter into agreement with the Metropolitan Transit Authority for coordinated operation of such facilities, and the Authority shall thereupon integrate the operations of such system with all its other*