

*Twenty-year Needs Study Program that available funds will accommodate. From the program for the five years beginning July 1, 1969 the Commission shall prepare and approve a construction and reconstruction program for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1969 and ending June 30, 1970 for which funds will be contained in the ~~Commissions~~ COMMISSION'S annual budget. Each year thereafter the Commission shall update the five-year program, thus establishing a continuing five-year construction and reconstruction program from which the Commission shall schedule the next annual program for the State Highway System. Each year the annual program of the Commission shall be submitted in the ~~Commissions~~ COMMISSION'S budget to the General Assembly for its review and approval. Such program shall include the highway projects scheduled during such budget year and the degree of completion anticipated. Concurrently the remaining four years of the five-year program shall be submitted to the General Assembly for its information. If the Commission for any reason is unable to perform in accordance with the scheduling set forth in the annual programs it is directed to explain to the next session of the General Assembly any change in the scheduling of a particular project included in preceding years' programs. Projects comprising the five-year programs shall be derived from the Twenty-year Needs Study which will be subject to local participation as set forth in Section 211-O of this Article. In order to insure full advantage from competitive bidding, it is the legislative intent that the Commission shall, whenever practicable, separate or break major construction projects into two or more smaller contracts for construction purposes.*

211-O.

*In order that the members of the General Assembly and the Executive Department of the State may be furnished with up-to-date and current information on highway needs and costs, the State Roads Commission is hereby authorized and directed, beginning with the calendar year 1970, to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor on or before February 1, 1970 a revised Highway Needs Study for the next succeeding twenty-year period. Thereafter, such twenty-year needs study shall be updated biennially by the Commission and submitted to the General Assembly and the Governor thus initiating a continuous twenty-year construction and reconstruction program based upon latest cost estimates and highway needs. Prior to the submission to the General Assembly and the Governor of each revised twenty-year needs study, the Commission shall ~~seek the participation of the members of the governing bodies and the legislators of each county in connection with~~ SECURE THE APPROVAL OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES REPRESENTING EACH COUNTY, AND SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF A MAJORITY OF THE STATE SENATORS REPRESENTING EACH COUNTY WITH RESPECT TO the inclusion of highway projects and the establishment of construction priorities. It shall be from the twenty-year needs study which must be prepared after participation with such local elected officials that the five-year programs provided for in Section ~~211-J~~ 211-I shall be prepared.*