

*other members of the Commission* relating to construction and maintenance [has been formulated by the Commission]. He shall have the sole authority to select all consulting engineers to be employed by the Commission. Once general policy is established in any field [where such authority is vested in the Commission], it shall be the duty of the Director to perform and fulfill such policy. The Director may, from time to time, call upon the other members of the Commission individually or jointly for counsel and advice.

The Commission meeting jointly shall [formulate] *advise the Director on* matters of policy relating to location, type, design, construction and maintenance of the secondary system of highways. It shall be the duty of the member of the Commission from the area where the secondary road under consideration is located to inform the other members of the Commission of local conditions which would affect the location, design, construction and maintenance of such secondary highway. The Commission shall recommend any overall highway improvement program to the [executive and legislative branches of the State] *Director and to the Secretary of Transportation*. The Commission meeting jointly should also make recommendations, from time to time, to the [Governor and the legislature] *Director and the Secretary of Transportation* relating to highway financing. The *Chairman of the Commission* shall also determine the general working conditions and salary recommendations relating to the Commission's employees. [Nothing in this section shall be deemed to deprive the Commission of any of its powers and duties conferred elsewhere in this article except as specifically set forth in this section, provided, however, when the Commission has acted pursuant to authority vested in it by this article, the Director of Highways is hereby authorized to perform and to bring to conclusion the Commission action, including the execution of contracts, agreements and other documents duly authorized by the Commission.]

## 22A.

(a) The [State Roads Commission] *Department of Transportation*, in addition to its other duties and powers provided by law, and notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in Articles 73B, 77, and 88B of the Annotated Code of Maryland or any other statute, is authorized to purchase real property that it deems will be necessary for future improvement of the State [highway] *transportation* system by the following method:

(b) The [Director of Highways, with the approval of the State Roads Commission] *Secretary of Transportation* may enter into an agreement or agreements, singly or jointly, with the trustees of the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland, the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Maryland or the State Police Retirement System of the State of Maryland for the acquisition of real property that the [State Roads Commission] *Department of Transportation* deems will be necessary for the future improvement of the State [roads] *transportation* system. Such agreements shall provide that the title to such property to be so acquired to be taken in the name of the [State Roads Commission] *Department of Transportation* of Maryland to the use of the State of Maryland, and for the simultaneous execution of a first mortgage by the [State Roads Commission] *Department of Transportation*; acting for the State of Maryland, for the full amount of the acquisition price for such