

(k) collect, process, and analyze at regular intervals the social and economic statistics for the region which are necessary to planning studies and make the results available to the general public;

(l) participate with other government agencies, educational institutions, and private organizations in the coordination of the research activities defined above;

(m) cooperate with and provide planning assistance to county, municipal, and other local governments, instrumentalities, or planning agencies within the region, and coordinate regional area planning with planning activities of the state and of the counties, municipalities, special districts, or other local governmental units within the region as well as neighboring regions and with the programs of federal departments and agencies;

(n) provide information to officials in state departments, agencies, and instrumentalities; to federal, and local governments, and to the public at large, in order to foster public awareness and understanding of the objectives of the comprehensive plan and the functions of regional and local planning, and in order to stimulate public interest and participation in the orderly, integrated development of the region; and

(o) execute any and all instruments and do and perform any and all acts or things necessary, convenient, or desirable for its purposes or to carry out the powers expressly given in this section.

(5) *Organization and Committees.* The Council shall elect a chairman from among its members and shall publish rules and establish committees to carry on its work. Such committees may have as members persons other than members of the Council and other than elected officials.

(6) *Director and Staff.* The Council shall appoint a director who shall be qualified by training and experience and shall serve at the pleasure of the Council. The director shall be the chief administrative and planning officer and regular technical advisor of the Council and shall appoint and remove the staff of the Council. The director may make agreements with local planning agencies, within the jurisdiction of the Tri-County Council of Public Officials, for temporary transfer or joint use of staff employees and may contract for professional or consultant services from other governmental and private agencies.

(7) *General Development Plan.* Tri-County Council shall prepare, adopt, and from time to time revise or amend a general development plan for the development of the Region. The plan shall guide a coordinated, adjusted, efficient and economic development of the Region which will, in accordance with present and future needs and resources best promote the health, safety, order, convenience, prosperity and welfare of the citizens, provide for patterns of urbanization and the uses of land and resources for trade, industry, recreation, forestry, agriculture, and tourism, and create conditions favorable to the development of human resources, and otherwise promote the general welfare of the citizens. Such plan shall identify the public interest and the necessity for public action and intergovernmental cooperation and coordination within the Region and shall