

“County Commissioners,” as repealed and enacted anew by the Acts of 1970, be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; that Sections 54A (2) and 54A (4) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Charles County (1969 Edition, being Article 9 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title “Charles County,” subtitle “County Commissioners,” as repealed and enacted anew by the Acts of 1970, be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments; that Section 46A (b) and (d) of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary’s County (1970 Supplement to the 1965 Edition, being Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and all to read as follows:

123½.

(2) The Tri-County Council shall be a *tax-exempt* public body corporate and politic, and shall operate as a cooperative planning and development agency within the representative counties to foster the physical, economic and social development of the tri-county area and utilize effectively the assistance provided by the State. It shall initiate and coordinate plans and projects for the development of human and economic resources of the Southern Maryland region as a Southern Maryland planning and development agency.

The Council will cooperate with the State departments and agencies concerned, including, but not limited to the Department of State Planning, Department of Economic Development, the State Office of Economic Opportunity, the State Roads Commission and the Department of Natural Resources, and submit for approval plans and projects of the Council in which such departments or agencies have statutory functions and responsibilities. *The Attorney General of Maryland shall serve as legal advisor to the Council in all matters pertaining to the Council’s activities.*

(4) Without in any manner limiting or restricting the general powers conferred by this section, the Tri-County Council may:

- (a) adopt and have a common seal and alter the same at pleasure;
- (b) sue [and be sued] , *but it shall be immune from being sued;*
- (c) adopt bylaws and make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business;
- (d) make and enter into all contracts or agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties;
- (e) borrow money and apply for and accept advances, loans, grants, contributions and any other form of assistance from the federal government, the state, or other public body, or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this act, and give such security as may be required and enter into and carry out contracts or agreements in connection therewith; and include in any contract for financial assistance with the federal government such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as it may deem reasonable and appropriate and which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this section;
- (f) prepare a comprehensive regional plan and functional plans for the guidance of the development of the Region;