

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;
- (g) as hereinafter provided, review any applications to agencies of the state or Federal Government for loans or grants-in-aid for projects by governmental subdivisions within the Region;
- (h) review local plans, proposals for projects, and ordinances having an impact outside the boundaries of the local government, subdivisions and within the Planning Region;
- (i) employ a director, engineers, attorneys, planners, consultants and other employees and prescribe their powers and duties and fix their compensation;
- (j) prepare studies of the region's resources with respect to existing and emerging problems of industry, commerce, transportation, population, housing, agriculture, public services, local governments, and any other matters which are relevant to regional planning;
- (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, munic-