

protect and promote commerce, the economic well-being, effective government and the public welfare of all sections of the County.

(d) As the movement of persons and vehicles within the County is important to its economic well-being, it is necessary to encourage the establishment of efficient and rapid public mass transportation facilities in order to facilitate the movement of travelers and to transport citizens of the County ~~inhabitants~~ from one part thereof to another, and to make provision for the furnishing of adequate and coordinated public mass transportation facilities for the future development of the County and the transportation of citizens and commerce therein.

(e) The regulation of public mass transportation facilities on a coordinated basis throughout the County by and through a common instrumentality is a proper and necessary step towards the alleviation of transit and traffic problems.

(f) Since the existing public mass transportation facilities have been provided by private enterprise, it is the primary objective of the General Assembly to improve such facilities and strengthen the workings of private operators. However, the General Assembly declares that private operators have a public responsibility to provide, maintain and properly operate public mass transportation facilities suited to the needs of the public which they serve.

(g) Therefore, it is declared that the purpose of the General Assembly in enacting this ~~article~~ SUBTITLE is to create a means or method to aid, assist and encourage the development and improvement of privately owned public mass transportation facilities to the end that an efficient, rapid and coordinated mass transportation system may be established, maintained and operated within Wicomico County for the use of the public and for furnishing such proper service as may be needed for the rapid transportation of its citizens.

#### 474B.

(a) As used in this ~~Act~~ SUBTITLE the following words and terms have the following meanings, unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning or intent:

(b) "Authority" means the Salisbury Wicomico Transportation Authority created by this ~~article~~, SUBTITLE, or if said Authority shall be abolished, the board, body or commission succeeding to the principal functions thereof or to which the powers given by this ~~article~~ SUBTITLE to the Authority shall be given by law.

(c) "City" means the Mayor and City Council of Salisbury.

(d) "County" means the governing body of Wicomico County.

(e) The phrase "mass transportation system" means and includes all plants, facilities, equipment, property and rights, whether located at grade, underground, overhead or in the air, used or useful for or in connection with the transportation of passengers for hire within the area over which the Authority has jurisdiction. As used herein this phrase does not include taxicabs. (~~compare w 474D (e) re: taxicabs~~)

(f) "Public transportation facilities," "public transportation properties" or "public transit facilities" mean and include all the real