

coordinating the activities of State agencies which have an impact on the solution of community development problems and the implementation of community plans; 2) Encourage and assist the efforts of local governments to develop mutual and cooperative solutions to their common problems; 3) Serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and other materials which may be pertinent to sound community development, including information on available federal, State and private financial and technical assistance; 4) In cooperation with the Department of State Planning, carry out continuing studies and analyses of sound community development and make such recommendations for administrative or legislative action as appear necessary paying particular attention to the problems of metropolitan, suburban, and other areas in which economic and population factors are rapidly changing."

Article 43, Section 387C of the Annotated Code of Maryland directs the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to coordinate the review of locally prepared County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plans which provide for the development of water and sewerage facilities that are consistent with population growth and comprehensive planning. Prior to approval or disapproval of the Water and Sewerage Plan, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is required to consider comments from specified State agencies relative to: a) impact on the State's natural resources, b) impact of facilities on "productive or potentially productive agricultural land" and c) consistency with the local master plan.

Section 2-103E of the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland establishes responsibility for "the development and maintenance of a continuing, comprehensive and integrated transportation planning process" for the Department of Transportation. It further requires the State to "adopt a State master plan for transportation to guide program development and to foster efficient and economical transportation services throughout this State." Pursuant to this Article, the Governor adopted, in 1978, a statement of the mission of the Department of Transportation as "helping the citizens of the State meet their basic social, economic, and environmental objectives and needs, and responding to national needs and goals related to the environment, commerce, defense and basic human welfare."

WHEREAS, The Development Council has studied the impact of State government policies, programs and regulations on