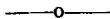


The Commission recently completed "A Program for Partial Pay-As-You-Go-Financing" in connection with the State's Long-Term Capital Improvement Program. Filling in the gap in basic data pertaining to the Maryland economy, the Commission has developed a series of income estimates for the 23 counties and Baltimore City. In addition, the "Economic County Data Book for Maryland" was revised as of March 1, 1955. With the cooperation of the county planning commissions, a monthly tabulation of new dwelling units authorized in the census tracts of the Baltimore Area was inaugurated, and a summary issued for the year 1954, in addition to the Commission's annual tabulation of "Building Permits Authorized" in the counties and cities of Maryland. A special study of "Ports in the State of Maryland" was prepared. The annual survey of planning and zoning agencies is being continued. New directories of the local agencies are compiled each year, plus a summary of planning programs, budgets, and staffs. In keeping with Joint Resolution No. 12 of the General Assembly of 1953, the Committee on Medical Care appointed a Subcommittee to Review the Financing of Maryland Health Activities. Based on the Subcommittee's report, the Commission transmitted its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislative Council, and General Assembly in February 1955. Another subcommittee of the Committee of Medical Care completed "A Survey of Mental Health Training and Research in Maryland."

Appropriations	1955	1956
General Fund	\$77,636	\$83,975
Staff: 13.		



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

James J. O'Donnell, Director, 1959
 Garrett O. Billmire, Assistant Director
 Laurence P. Sangston, Principal Architect
 Katherine M. McQuade, Executive Secretary

506 Park Ave.

Plaza 2-2530

The Department of Public Improvements was created by the Legislature in 1947. The Director of Public Improvements, the designated head of the Department, is appointed by the Governor for a term of four years.

The duties of the Department of Public Improvements consist, in part of the following: to assist and advise the Board of Public Works and other State agencies on all matters of engineering surveys, plans, specifications and contracts for public improvements that may come before the Board or in which a State agency may be interested; to select and appoint architects and engineers, subject to approval of the Board of Public Works, to prepare plans and specifications for all public improvements; to assist the State Planning Commission in the development of technical details necessary for the preparation of the Capital Improvement Program; to collect and maintain a complete and accurate file of plats and surveys of the location of all public improvements; and to represent the Board of Public Works at the opening of all bids for public improvements and tabulate, record and advise the Board of such bids. The Department maintains an inspection division with representation on all major projects to insure adherence to established standards and specifications. As charged by law, the Department prepared and presented a State Building Code to the 1951 session of the General Assembly (Code 1951, Art. 41, sec. 202; Art. 78A, secs. 11-16, 19).