

## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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The Department of Economic and Community Development was created in 1970 (Acts of 1970, ch. 527). Its origins, however, date back to the formation of the Department of Information. Originally authorized by the Board of Public Works in 1948 as a division of the Hall of Records Commission, the Department of Information gained independent status in 1949 (Acts of 1949, ch. 665). By 1959 it was superseded by the Department of Economic Development (Acts of 1959, ch. 185), from which the Department of Economic and Community Development was created in 1970.

The Department of Economic and Community Development was established to advance the economic and cultural welfare of the people of Maryland (Chapter 527, Acts of 1970). The Department's enabling legislation directs it to create and preserve optimal job and income opportunities for Marylanders and to protect and enhance the social, economic, cultural, and fiscal viability of the State's communities.

The Department's more than twenty programs are organized into two principal areas: economic development, which focuses on economic development financing and marketing, and housing and community development, which focuses on housing and community development as well as historic preservation and cultural programs.

The Economic Development group consists of the following agencies: the Office of Business and Industrial Development, Office of Business Liaison, Office of Industrial Training, Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority, Maryland Industrial Development Financing Authority, Office of Seafood Marketing, and Office of Tourist Development.

The Housing and Community Development group consists of the following agencies: the Community Development Administration, Division of Local and Regional Development, Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc., Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, Commission on Afro-American History and Culture, Commission on Ethnic Affairs, Maryland Historical Trust, Governor's Consulting Committee for the National Register of Historic Places in Maryland, Commission on Indian Affairs, St. Mary's City Commission, Maryland State Arts Council, Codes Administration, Code Enforcement Certification Board, Advisory Commission on Energy Utilization in Buildings, Advisory Commission on Industrialized Building and Mobile Homes, and Maryland Housing Fund.

The Department also includes the Maryland Energy Financing Administration, and the Motion Picture and Television Development Office.

### MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

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