

Ex officio: Ronald M. Kreitner, Director of Planning; Robert Beckett, designee of Secretary of Natural Resources; James L. Hearn, designee of Secretary of the Environment; Rosemary Roswell, designee of Secretary of Agriculture.

Nonvoting: Arnold Perreco, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts; Joseph R. Robinson, City of Laurel.

Staff: Raymond J. Puzio

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Baltimore, MD 21201 225-4510

Created in 1980, the Patuxent River Commission reviews the operation of State and local agencies in regard to the Patuxent River (Chapter 746, Acts of 1980). It provides a clearinghouse for watershed information and reviews plans and comments on reports and development projects impacting the river. The Commission helped prepare the Patuxent River Policy Plan and is instrumental in carrying out the Plan's purposes.

The Commission is composed of eleven members, one from each of the seven counties within the watershed and four *ex officio* members or designees. The Governor appoints the Commission's members to four-year terms (Code State Finance and Procurement Article, secs. 5-812 through 5-816).

STATE & LOCAL PLANNING

Vacancy, *Deputy Director*
225-4500

COMPREHENSIVE STATE PLANNING

Roland E. English III, *Chief*
225-4562

Comprehensive State Planning prepares studies and plans for the State's development. Special attention is accorded land use and growth, agriculture and forest preservation, restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay, outdoor open space and recreation planning, and implementation of the Patuxent River Policy Plan.

LOCAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Scribner H. Sheafor, *Chief*
225-4550

Local Planning Assistance reviews and coordinates plans and programs of local governments and State agencies. Local Planning Assistance also intervenes in land use proceedings of substantial interest, and analyzes municipal annexation proposals.

Four regional offices maintain liaison with and provide technical assistance to local governments and planning organizations. The offices are located in Centreville, Cumberland, Salisbury, and Charlotte Hall.

PLANNING DATA SERVICES

Michel A. Lettre, *Assistant Director*
225-4450

Planning Data Services collects, analyzes, and publishes social, economic, and geographic information for planning purposes. Planning Data Services provides a comprehensive data base for use by other State agencies, the Executive Department, the General Assembly, local government, and the general public.

Projections of population, housing, public school enrollment, and employment are prepared for the City of Baltimore and each county in the State. Projections are used by other State and local agencies as well as the private sector.

Planning Data Services maintains statistical data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census and other information sources. Data covered include such areas as: population, housing, employment, income, and education. The office also operates the Maryland Automated Geographic Information (MAGI) System, a computerized system that has geographically grid-referenced data on the physical and cultural attributes of the State.

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE

Mary J. Abrams, *Chief*
225-4490

Formerly within the Department of State Planning, the State Clearinghouse for Intergovernmental Assistance was transferred to the Office of Planning in 1989 (Chapter 540, Acts of 1989). The Clearinghouse facilitates intergovernmental review and coordination of applications for financial assistance, direct federal development programs, draft environmental impact statements, nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, State plans requiring gubernatorial review, and certain specified applications for State assistance.

The Clearinghouse is the State's single point of contact for federal agencies and serves as the point of dissemination for notices and announcements of proposed federal and some State actions. The Clearinghouse transmits the views of Maryland public officials to federal agencies, facilitates resolution of disputes, and formulates a single recommended course of action. The Clearinghouse also recommends the disposition of State excess and federal surplus real property.

The Clearinghouse publishes the *Inventory of State-Owned Real Property*, the *Catalog of State Assistance Programs*, quarterly and annual reports of federal financial assistance awards, and the weekly *Intergovernmental Monitor*, which lists proposed federal and State actions (Code State Finance and Procurement Article, sec. 5-509).