

construction, maintenance, and operation of water supply and sewerage systems in Prince George's and Montgomery counties and regulates and inspects plumbing and gas-fitting installations in both counties. The Commission also administers, maintains, and operates the Anacostia River Flood Control and Navigation Project.

The two major sources of water supply for the Commission system are the Patuxent River, through the Patuxent Filtration Plant, and the Potomac River, through the Potomac River Filtration Plant. The Commission also stores about 12 billion gallons of raw water at Rocky Gorge Reservoir, in Prince George's and Montgomery counties, and at Triadelphia Lake, in Montgomery County. Little Seneca Lake, in Montgomery County, and the Jennings-Randolph Reservoir, in West Virginia, provide storage for an additional 17 billion gallons of water.

Much of the sewage from the Commission service area is transported through trunk sewers into the District of Columbia and is treated at the regional Blue Plains Pollution Control Plant in Washington, DC. Other sewage disposal plants operated by the Commission are near Laurel, at Piscataway Bay; on the western branch of the Patuxent River, at Seneca Creek Basin; and in northern Montgomery County. The Commission also runs several smaller waste water plants and, in eastern Montgomery County, a 116-acre composting facility that processes the Commission's proportionate share of Blue Plains sludge.

Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plans for Montgomery and Prince George's counties, formerly drafted by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, now are prepared by the respective county governments. The Commission's annual budget is subject to joint approval by the governing bodies of the two counties. The Commission sets customer rates for its suburban Maryland service area.

Through its Office of Communications, the Commission distributes free information on all facets of its operation. The Plumbing and Gas-Fitting Regulations are available for a fee. An active speakers' bureau also is managed by the Office.

The Commission consists of six members: three from Montgomery County and three from Prince George's County. Each county's members are appointed to four-year terms by the County Executive with County Council consent. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are chosen annually by the Commission (Code 1957, Art. 29).

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN TRANSIT COMMISSION

Chairperson: Carlton R. Sickles, Montgomery County

Appointed by Montgomery County Executive: Cleatus E. Barnett; Graham J. Norton; Carlton R. Sickles.

Appointed by Prince George's County Executive: John P. Davey; Hilda R. Pemberton; one vacancy.

Ex officio: Alexander J. Eckmann, designee of Secretary of Transportation

Louis W. Farber, *Executive Secretary-Treasurer*

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The Washington Suburban Transit Commission was created in 1965 (Chapter 870, Acts of 1965). The Commission administers the Washington Suburban Transit District and has powers to develop, on a bi-county basis, a transportation system, including mass transit facilities, for Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

The Commission acts as the financial conduit for funding of mass transportation projects within Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It coordinates mass transit programs for the two counties with the two county governments, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and the Maryland Department of Transportation.

The Commission and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), work together to develop a regional rapid rail transit system. The Commission appoints two of its members and two alternates to the Authority's Board of Directors. The Authority is the interstate agency that plans, finances, and operates the regional rapid rail and bus transit systems for the Washington metropolitan area.

The Commission consists of seven members. Three are appointed by the Montgomery County Executive, and three by the Prince George's County Executive. The Secretary of Transportation (or designee) serves *ex officio*. Commissioners who are appointed from among the members of the elected governing bodies serve at the pleasure of the County Executive, while others serve three-year terms. The position of chairperson alternates annually between Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

DEFUNCT INTERCOUNTY AGENCIES

BALTIMORE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

When the Council was abolished in 1992, some of its functions were assumed by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (Chapter 201, Acts of 1992).