

development in urban, suburban and rural areas throughout Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The State government has a responsibility for protecting the health and welfare of its residents through improvements to the quality of the environment and for protecting its abundant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The State government and its citizens are committed to the conservation and wise use of energy, especially non-renewable energy resources, and to the development and use of renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, Increasing population places ever greater demands upon Maryland's natural resources and environment; and

WHEREAS, The State is committed to reducing the level of unemployment in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The State government acts in partnership with the private sector and other levels of government towards these ends, and local governments have and will continue to exercise primary responsibility for land use and planning controls; and

WHEREAS, The State government has a duty to expend its funds effectively and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, A Cabinet level development council has been created in the State of Maryland to examine issues where comprehensive and consistent State policies are required to guide the effective and efficient allocation of State resources for physical development decisions concerning (1) location of State facilities (2) construction, improvement of, and access to existing and proposed State highways and other transportation facilities (3) water and sewerage treatment facilities (4) environmental quality (5) exercise of intervention and critical areas powers (6) State economic development and housing programs and business promotion activities (7) natural resources conservation (8) agricultural land preservation (9) parks and open space acquisition (10) historic preservation and (11) other State and federal programs targeted to areas of special need; and

WHEREAS, The State General Assembly, from time to time, has enacted legislation addressing responsibilities for planning and development by State government, among which are:

Article 88C, Section 2 of the Maryland Code, which