

1.

The rapid urbanization of the area which includes the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard, and the City of Baltimore has resulted in the creation of serious problems. Sixty percent of the population of Maryland resides in this area. During the past ten years the population of the region has increased by one third, to over 1,800,000. It is anticipated that this trend will continue, further aggravating the problems. The flow of traffic does not stop at a city or county line. The economy and well-being of the area are best advanced when the economic potential is considered and developed on a regional and State-wide basis. An opportunity must be provided for the several units of government within the area to work together with the State and private agencies toward the solution of their problems. In order to deal with these matters on a rational and sound basis, they must be considered within the framework of a general development plan for the area. Thus, a regional planning agency is required to prepare a suggested general development plan—a plan which will provide for the effective employment of the natural and other resources of the region—and which will assure a continuous, comprehensive and cooperative land use and transportation planning process within the region. In the execution of its purpose, the regional planning agency will serve as a consultative and coordinating agency (1) seeking to harmonize and advance its planning activities with the planning activities of the State and of the counties and municipalities within the metropolitan area, (2) rendering planning assistance, [and] (3) stimulating public interest and participation in planning for the development of the area, (4) serving as the referral agency for regional problems, PROBLEMS AFFECTING MORE THAN ONE UNIT OF GOVERNMENT, and (5) reviewing local government programs and grant-in-aid requests when required by law.

4.

(a) *The membership of the Council shall include three representatives from the City of Baltimore, three representatives from each of the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard, the Director of the State Department of Planning, the Chairman-Director of the State Roads Commission, the Chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, the Chairman of the Maryland Port Authority and four representatives to be appointed by the Governor, namely, a member of the Maryland Senate, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, and two citizens of the State of Maryland, as follows:*

(b) *The Mayor of the City of Baltimore shall be a member of the Council and he shall have authority to nominate, constitute and appoint a permanent alternate, who shall be an elected or appointed official of the City of Baltimore to serve, in his absence as a member of the Council. The President of the City Council of the City of Baltimore shall be a member of the Council and shall have authority to nominate, constitute and appoint a member of the City Council to serve, in his absence as a member of the Council. The Mayor of the City of Baltimore shall appoint a member of the Baltimore City Planning Commission as a member of the Council.*

(c) *The County Executive of Anne Arundel County shall be a member of the Council and shall have authority to nominate, con-*