

TRANSPORTATION
Title 74

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TRANSPORTATION

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Representatives no later than 30 days after receipt of such report for review and consideration of future funding by such committees. Where any alternate means have been rejected, the authority shall demonstrate that the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of that alternate means have been considered. As used in this paragraph, "finding of special opportunity" shall mean a written determination by the board that exclusion of a real estate-related matter from bidding procedures, as provided in this chapter or any other law, will be in the best interest of the authority and will be compatible with the authority's basic function as a public transportation provider, considering the nature of the real estate-related matter with respect to which the authority proposes to contract. Any finding of special opportunity shall include the basis on which the finding of special opportunity is being made.

(25) To lease property or contract for service, including managerial and operating service, whenever it can more efficiently and effectively serve the public by so doing, rather than conducting its own operations with its own property.

(26) To have the right to use any public road, street, way, highway, bridge or tunnel for the operation of a transportation system within the metropolitan area. In all cases involving the facilities of a railroad, any operations of which extend beyond the metropolitan area, the exercise of this right by the authority shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission under Title 66 (relating to public utilities) only to the extent that the operations extend beyond the metropolitan area.

(27) To act as agent of any government agency or any Federal agency for the public purposes set forth in this chapter.

(28) To make available to any government agency the recommendations of the authority affecting any area in the authority's field of operation or property therein, which it may deem likely to promote the public health, morals, safety and welfare.

(29) To form plans for the improvement of mass transportation and the operation of a transportation system in order to promote the economic development of the metropolitan area in which the transportation authority operates, to make recommendations concerning mass transportation facilities which the authority does not own or operate, to make recommendations concerning throughways and arterial highway connections to the department and to other appropriate governmental bodies and otherwise to cooperate with all such governmental bodies. The authority shall give advance notice to the department of any plans which it may have for the occupation or use of any part of any State

highway.

(30) To rehabilitate, reconstruct and extend as possible all portions of any transportation system acquired by the authority and to maintain at all times a fast, reliable and economical transportation system suitable and adapted to the needs of the municipalities served by the authority and for safe, comfortable and convenient service. To that end, the board shall make every effort to utilize high-speed rights-of-way, private or otherwise, to the maximum extent practicable to avoid air pollution by its vehicles, to abandon no physical property which the authority has determined retains continued usefulness to the authority and to extend its rail and highway services into areas which have sufficient need for them to economically or strategically justify such extension.

(31) To adopt, consistent with the policies of this chapter, and from time to time amend a comprehensive transportation plan. A public hearing shall be conducted prior to adoption or amendment. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in two newspapers of general circulation and a publication specifically designed to reach minorities not fewer than 30 days prior to the hearing.

(32) To do all acts and things necessary for the promotion of its business and the general welfare of the authority to carry out the powers granted to it by this chapter or any other statute. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the board shall adopt procedures and practices to implement the provisions of this chapter by resolution of the board.

(b) Public highways.--Private rights and property in the beds of existing public highways vacated in order to facilitate the purposes of the authority shall not be deemed destroyed or ousted by reason of the vacation, but shall be acquired or relocated by the authority in the same manner as other property.

(c) Certain powers denied.--The authority shall have no power, at any time or in any manner, to pledge the credit or taxing power of the Commonwealth or any other government agency, nor shall any of the authority's obligations be deemed to be obligations of the Commonwealth or of any other government agency, nor shall the Commonwealth or any government agency be liable for the payment of principal or interest on such obligations.

(d) No power to levy taxes.--The authority shall not have power to levy taxes for any purpose whatsoever.

References in Text. The act of July 3, 1986 (P.L.388, No.84), known as the Sunshine Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(24), was repealed by the act of October 15, 1998 (P.L.729, No.93). The subject matter is now contained in Chapter 7 of Title 65 (Public Officers).

Cross References. Section 1741 is referred to in sections