

THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION

In a pulsing metropolitan area like the Atlanta Region, political boundaries become indistinct. The newly arrived suburban dweller may be unsure whether he lives within the "city" or without. He may be ignorant for some time of which county he will vote in or pay his taxes in, or what agency he should call if his garbage is not picked up.

The central city and the suburb both face hard decisions as to public revenues and public services. The central city fights to revitalize itself and to alleviate its traffic congestion. The suburb is beset by increasing demands for services from an ever increasing population.

Where there are such pressing problems, both distinct and shared, a metropolitan area obviously needs an agency to:

- Maintain a research program;
- Make comprehensive plans;
- Promote teamwork and coordination;
- Give assistance and advice to local units.

The agency providing these services in Greater Atlanta is the Atlanta Region Metropolitan Planning Commission.