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Highway Research Board

Three papers discuss structures and programs for implementing transportation plans at the state, regional, and federal levels. Mueller describes the cre-

ation and subsequent activities of the Florida Department of Transportation. Colcord discusses the institutional opportunities, particularly councils of governments and departments of transportation, available within states to plan and implement transportation programs. Ettinger discusses the assistance the Urban Mass Transportation Administration can offer under various legislative provisions.

Edward A. Mueller
Florida Department of Transportation

Any approach to public transportation in Florida requires some understanding of the transportation organization. By 1972, transportation efforts in Florida had evolved from a highly politically motivated highway department to an urban-oriented, somewhat sophisticated, multimodal professional department of transportation. The changes were not always accomplished smoothly or gracefully, but they did occur. What used to be the strong political right arm of the governor several decades ago is now an action-oriented agency that carries out its program by working together with legislators and all varieties of federal and local officials.

In 1969, Florida legislatively reorganized its transportation functions. At that time a department of transportation was created, largely composed of the former state road department but including other forms of transportation with the exception of waterway development. Four functional divisions were created: planning and programming, administration, road operations, and transit operations. A secretary of transportation was created to oversee these functions. The Administration Division handles personnel, finance, contract lettings, permits, office services, reproduction, and the like. It also houses the right-of-way functions, the numerous toll-collection facilities, and the turnpike. The Road Operations Division designs, constructs, and maintains highways. The Planning and Programming Division undertakes the planning activity for all modes of transportation. In the preconstruction process, this division carries all activities

IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS