

be improved, the extent and character of the improvement, and the probable cost thereof, and the said Commissioners shall thereupon order the Road Commissioners of the district or districts and the Baltimore County Roads Engineer to meet upon the premises and examine the location and purposes set forth in the petition, and if they shall judge that the public interest will be promoted thereby they shall report their determination to the County Commissioners, setting forth an estimate of the money required, and their reasons for such determination, and if the County Commissioners shall approve the report of the said Road Commissioners and said Engineer, they shall direct the expenditure of an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars per mile, to be paid out of the general road and bridge fund, provided the petitioners for such improvements shall first pay into the treasury of the county an amount not less than equal that appropriated by the County Commissioners, all of said money to be expended under the direction of the Road Commissioners.

Sec. 202. Whenever any owner of property in Baltimore County shall have opened, laid out or graded any avenue or road for the public convenience, and is willing to dedicate the same to public uses, by a good and sufficient deed duly recorded, the County Commissioners are authorized to accept the same, if, in their opinion, the same be necessary and convenient for public use, and upon such acceptance the said avenue or road so dedicated shall be kept in good order and repair by the Road Commissioners of the district in which it may be situated; provided, however, that previous to such acceptance said road shall not be less than thirty feet in width, and duly and properly graded in the judgment of the County Commissioners.

Authority to accept roads from property owners.

Sec. 203. Whenever any road shall have been in use for twenty years, though the same may not have been condemned or granted as a public highway, the County Commissioners, if they deem public necessity requires the adoption of the same as such, shall declare the said road to be a public highway, with full power to re-locate and straighten the same, in their discretion, and shall publish a notice to that effect once a week for two successive weeks, in one or more newspapers published in Baltimore County; provided, said road shall not be less than thirty feet in width, and such road so declared to be a public highway, shall be kept in good order and repair by the Road Commissioners of the district in which such road is situated, or other public roads are.

May declare road to be a public highway, etc.