

shall serve for such term and shall receive such compensation as the General Assembly may provide in said public local law.

(b) The Baltimore Redevelopment Commission, when created, shall have power and authority to acquire land in slums and blighted areas in Baltimore City by purchase, lease or condemnation, and to reconvey any such land by sale or lease for redevelopment, in accordance with a redevelopment plan for Baltimore City, provided that such redevelopment plan has first been approved by the Commission on City Plan of Baltimore City; and provided further that no such slum or blighted area to be acquired shall be less than eight acres or more than eighty acres. The term "slum" shall mean any area where dwellings predominate, which by reason of depreciation, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light or sanitary facilities, or any combination of these factors, are detrimental to the public safety, health or morals. The term "blighted area" shall mean an area in which a majority of the buildings have declined in productivity by reason of obsolescence, depreciation or other causes to an extent they no longer justify fundamental repairs and adequate maintenance.

(c) The Baltimore Redevelopment Commission shall have authority to use the power of eminent domain to acquire any land needed for any redevelopment project within the corporate limits of the City of Baltimore. Property already devoted to a public use may be acquired by the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission; provided, however, that no real property belonging to the State of Maryland or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore or of the Baltimore Housing Authority may be acquired without the consent of said State or of said City or of said Baltimore Housing Authority, as the case may be. No property taken by the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission, by exercise of the Power of eminent domain, shall be taken without just compensation, as agreed upon between the parties, or awarded by a Jury.¹

(d) The Baltimore Redevelopment Commission shall have power to petition the United States of America for loans of money and to receive from the United States of America such loans to be used in the acquisition of land in slums and blighted areas for redevelopment and for use in the preparation of any redevelopment plan.

¹ Thus amended by Act of 1945, Chapter 659, and ratified at November election, 1946.