

surveying, mapping, calculating, printing, etc., in the preparation of said plans and specifications and estimate as may be required by said commission ; but no county shall be compelled to pay for such plans, specifications and estimate an amount greater than fifty dollars per mile.

1904, ch 225, sec. 6.

**38.** After the receipt of such plans and specifications and estimate by the board of county commissioners of any county in Maryland from said commission, said board of county commissioners, if they elect to proceed further hereunder, or if ten per centum of the estimated cost has been paid or secured as hereinbefore provided in section 33, shall advertise for two consecutive weeks in at least one newspaper published in such county, and also during the time of such publication in such county newspaper, at least three consecutive times in at least one newspaper published in Baltimore city, for bids for such road building or improvement, setting forth the place where such road is to be built or improved, and giving a general description of said proposed work, and stating that sealed proposals for the performance of said proposed work in accordance with the plans and specifications will be received until a day named in the advertisement, provided that nothing in this section shall require the county commissioners of any county, upon the petition of such persons agreeing to pay ten per centum to advertise for work to be done under the provisions of this sub-title to an amount greater than twenty-five centum of the road levy of said county ; and the board of county commissioners shall furnish a copy of the said specifications for such proposed work to any prospective bidder who may request the same ; and the said board shall reserve the right to reject any and all bids and to do the work according to said plans and specifications by such arrangement as they may deem best, but under no condition shall the amount to be paid by the State under the provisions of this sub-title exceed one-half of the detailed estimates furnished as hereinbefore provided.

Ibid. sec. 7.

**39.** On the day stated in such advertisements, the proposals shall be publicly opened and read and the contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, provided his bid does not exceed the amount estimated by the commission aforesaid as a proper maximum cost of said work ; and if all bids shall exceed the amount specified then no contract shall be