

public, including constructing pump-out stations for use by the general boating public at public and private marinas. The Secretary may use the funds to install pump-out stations for use by the general boating public and to supplement maintenance costs at the discretion of the Secretary. Before approving the construction of any pump-out station at a public or private marina, the Secretary shall consult with the Department of the Environment to assure that the wastewater collection and treatment system of the marina is adequate to handle any increased flow. The Department may adopt regulations to govern the use and operation of pump-out stations for use by the general boating public constructed or supported by State funds under this section;

(5) Improvement, reconstruction, or removal of bridges, drawbridges, or similar structures over or across waters, if those structures delay, impede, or obstruct the boating public. With the approval of the Board of Public Works, funds from another public or any private source may be received and used to supplement and increase the funds in the Waterway Improvement Fund for the purpose of this subsection. Also, the Board of Public Works may enter into an agreement with a private company or person which owns such a structure, for the improvement, reconstruction, or removal of the structure, in order to provide a sharing of the cost of the improvement, reconstruction, or removal;

(6) Evaluation of water-oriented recreation needs and recreational capacities of Maryland waterways, and development of comprehensive plans for waterway improvements;

(7) To provide matching grants to local governments for the construction of marine facilities for marine firefighting, marine police or medical services, and for the acquisition of vessels, and equipment for vessels for marine firefighting, police, medical, and communication equipment for promoting safety of life and property and general service to the boating public utilizing the waters of the State. The ownership, operation, and maintenance of any equipment acquired under this subtitle shall be the responsibility of the local governing body;

(8) Structural and nonstructural shore erosion control under subsection (b) of this section;

(9) Acquisition of equipment and State vessels for firefighting, policing, first aid and medical assistance, and communications, in order to promote safety of life and property and general service to the boating public utilizing waters of the State;

(10) Boating information and education; and

(11) To provide interest-free loans to a governing body for the benefit of a residential property owner, or group of residential property owners, with land abutting a channel adjacent to a FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, OR MUNICIPAL main channel or harbor[, whose property has been included in a waterway improvement district by the governing body,] for dredging the adjacent channel.

8-708.1.

(a) (1) Projects for dredging channels adjacent to FEDERAL, STATE,