

*Streets, Bridges and Highways.*—To provide for laying out, opening, extending, widening, straightening or closing up, in whole or in part, any street, square, lane or alley within the bounds of said City, which in its opinion the public welfare or convenience may require. To provide for ascertaining whether any, and what amount in value, of damage will be caused thereby, and what amount of benefit will thereby accrue to the owner or possessor of any ground or improvements within or adjacent to said City, for which said owner or possessor ought to be compensated, or ought to pay a compensation, and to provide for assessing or levying, either generally on the whole assessable property of said City, or specially on the property of persons benefited, the whole or any part of the damages and expenses which it shall ascertain will be incurred in locating, opening, extending, widening, straightening or closing up the whole or any part of any street, square, lane or alley in said City. To provide for granting appeals to the Baltimore City Court, from the decisions of the Commissioners for Opening Streets or any Commissioner or Commissioners, or other persons appointed by virtue of any ordinance, to ascertain the damage which will be caused or the benefit which will accrue to the owners or possessors of ground or improvements by locating, opening, extending, widening, straightening or closing up, in whole or in part, any street, square, lane or alley within the said City, and for securing to every such owner or possessor the right, on application within a reasonable time, to have decided by a jury trial whether any damage has been caused, or any benefit has accrued to them, and to what amount. To provide for collecting and paying over the amount of compensation adjudged to each person entitled, or investing it in stock of the said City, for the use of any such person who, because of infancy, absence from the City or any other cause, may be prevented from receiving it, before any street, square, lane or alley, in whole or in part, shall be so opened, extended, widened, straightened or closed up, and to enact and pass all ordinances, from time to time, which shall be deemed necessary and proper to exercise the powers and effect the objects above specified. To acquire the fee simple interest in any land for the purpose of opening, extending, widening or straightening, in whole or in part, any street,