

shall be the owner or owners thereof at the time of the condemnation, or who shall be parties to such proceeding in personam, nor to any person or persons claiming under him, her or them; provided, however, that when the condemnation shall be provided for by ordinance, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may determine, and in the ordinance providing for the condemnation declare, that an interest for a fixed and limited period of time will suffice for the purpose or purposes for which the property is to be acquired, and under such circumstances, only such interest shall be condemned and acquired.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 10, 1908.

#### CHAPTER 163.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments, section 15 of article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Charter," relating to the awarding of municipal contracts.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That section 15 of article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Charter," relating to the awarding of municipal contracts be, and the same hereby is repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

15. All bids made to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for supplies or work for any purpose whatever, unless otherwise provided in this article, shall be opened by a board, or a majority of them, consisting of the Mayor, who shall be president of the same, the Comptroller, City Register, City Solicitor, and the President of the Second Branch, which board, or majority of them, shall, after opening said bids, award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, provided, however, that whenever alternative bids are invited for two or more different things, then the said board shall have power and authority, in its discretion, after all bids have been opened, to select the particular thing which shall be adopted, and thereupon the said board shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder for and upon the particular thing so selected, and any recommendations which may be made by any department, sub-department, municipal officers not embraced in a department, special commission or board as