

347. The County Commissioners shall annually levy upon the assessable property of Baltimore County at the time of making the County levy not less than forty cents nor more than forty-five cents on the one hundred dollars for the use of the County roads and bridges, of which sum thirty per cent. shall be set apart as an Improved Road System Fund to be spent as herein provided for, and to be applied to the general use and benefit of the roads and bridges of the County as herein provided and the remaining seventy per cent. of the tax so levied and collected for roads and bridges shall be set apart as a special road and bridge fund for the use and benefit of the election district from which it has been collected and for no other purpose. Whenever the people of any election district may desire a special road fund for such district in excess of that provided by the general rate of tax levied for, they may petition the said County Commissioners for a special road tax for such district, not to exceed ten cents on the one hundred dollars of the assessable property of such district, which petition must represent two-fifths of the taxable basis of such district, and when such petition is presented to the said Commissioners, it shall be determined by them whether to grant the same or not, provided notice of such petition shall be given by publication in two weekly newspapers published in Baltimore County, and the taxpayers of the districts be given an opportunity to be heard, and if granted, the said Commissioners shall determine what special rate, not greater than ten cents on the one hundred dollars of property in the district, shall be allowed, and it shall thereupon become the duty of said County Commissioners to levy for and collect such special tax as other taxes, and when collected, the same shall be used for the exclusive benefit of the roads and bridges of the election district from which collected. When there shall not be sufficient money in the County Treasury, set apart as Improved Road System Fund to meet the demand for any emergency, the County Commissioners of Baltimore County shall have the power to borrow money not exceeding twenty thousand dollars in one year, on the credit of the County, to be paid out of road money provided by the next succeeding levy and from the special, or, the Improved Road System Fund as the said Commissioners deem proper.

348. All bills or claims on account of the roads and bridges of the County, after having received the endorsement of the Roads Engineer, as hereinbefore provided, shall be passed upon by the County Commissioners at a regular or adjourned meeting, and no such claim involving the expendi-