

ter," to follow Section 177 and to be designated Section 177-A, and to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 181.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Section be added to Article 4 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Charter," to follow Section 177 and to be designated Section 177-A, and that Section 181 be repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

177-A. In any ordinance for opening, extending, widening, straightening, closing or grading any street, lane or alley in the City of Baltimore, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may provide that the assessments of benefits may be made payable in annual instalments, not exceeding five, with interest at six per cent. on the deferred instalments from the time such proceedings are concluded. If any such ordinance does not provide otherwise as to the time of payment of benefits, then all benefits assessed thereunder shall be payable, at the option of the person assessed, either at once or in five equal instalments, one of which shall be due when the proceedings under said ordinance are concluded and the other instalments shall be due and payable, respectively, one, two, three and four years thereafter, with interest on each instalment from the date when the proceedings were finally concluded; provided, however, that where the same party is assessed in any such proceedings for benefits and also awarded damages, the damages shall be deducted from the benefits to the extent of the damages, and the provision of this Section as to paying the benefits in instalments shall apply only to the excess of the benefits over the damages. The Commissioners, in their final return, shall state whether or not benefits are to be payable in instalments, and if so in what instalments.

181. If no appeal shall have been prayed, then, within ten days after the time hereinbefore limited therefor, or after the return of the decision upon any appeal shall have been made to the said commissioners, their return shall be transferred to the City Collector, who shall proceed forthwith to notify the parties assessed for benefits by means of bills specifying the several sums so assessed and the instalment thereof due and payable, and warning them that if the same be not paid within two months from the date of such transfer of said commissioners' returns, he will proceed to sell the specific pieces or parts of property on which said unpaid sum or sums of money shall have been assessed, in the manner and after having given the notice directed