

title "Public Works", sub-title "Sewer and Water", to authorize the equitable apportionment of the cost of certain water and sewer projects among the property owners in any drainage areas.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 346 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore County (1948 Edition) title "Public Works", sub-title "Sewer and Water", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

346. The Commissioners from time to time shall cause surveys, studies, plans, specifications and estimates to be made for water supply, sewerage and storm water drainage systems in all those parts of the Baltimore County Metropolitan District in which there is, in their judgment, a need for water supply, sewerage or drainage. Whenever plans shall have been completed for a water supply, sewerage or storm water drainage system, or any part thereof, in any part of the District the Commissioners shall proceed to construct or cause to be constructed such systems, or parts thereof, by contract, after public advertisement, or by day labor, if no satisfactory contract can be made after public advertisement, as they may deem advisable, so that said system or systems may be constructed at a minimum cost, provided, however, that the cost of such work carried out by day labor shall not exceed, at any time, Twenty-five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.-00). No water or sewer lines or systems, or any part thereof, shall be constructed, except upon the written recommendation of the Chief Sanitary Engineer. Before making his recommendation in writing with respect to the construction or extension of any water or sewer lines or systems, or any parts thereof, the Chief Sanitary Engineer shall make a thorough field inspection of the territory proposed to be served by the new construction or extension, and shall prepare sufficient plans upon which to make an adequate cost estimate of the proposed construction or extension, together with conservative estimates in writing of the revenues to be expected therefrom by assessments and charges of any kind authorized by this Act. Such plans and estimates shall accompany his written recommendations and shall be filed by him in the office of the Commissioners. If said plans and estimates fail to show that the proposed new construction or extension will be financially self-supporting within a reasonable time after completion, the Commissioners shall not order the construction of said new lines or extensions, unless property owners requesting them shall finance their cost upon a basis that will make them a permanently self-supporting part of the Metropolitan District. The requirement that a project be financially self-supporting shall not apply to any exercise by the Commissioners of the general powers and authority to establish, construct and maintain facilities conferred upon them by Section 341, provided the Chief Sanitary Engineer finds that: (a) the cost or expense involved in the exercise of such power and authority is not readily or fairly susceptible of allocation among property owners in the affected area in accordance with the terms of Section 354, and (b) the exercise of such power and authority is for a purpose necessary and useful to the operation or maintenance of a water system, sewer system, or part thereof, constructed or to be constructed in the Baltimore County Metropolitan District, and (c) *the Chief Sanitary Engineer prepares a schedule of equitable apportionment of cost among the property owners in the drainage area*