

to the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1957 Edition, being Article 13 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Harford County", sub-title "Roads", to follow immediately after Section 443 thereof, relating to the acceptance, maintenance, and construction of roads in Harford County ~~and~~, relating generally to roads in Harford County, AND AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION OF AND THE COLLECTION OF BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS ON ABUTTING PROPERTIES TO PAY THE COSTS OF CERTAIN ROAD CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new ~~Section 443A~~ SECTIONS 443A THROUGH 443F be and it is hereby added to the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1957 Edition, being Article 13 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Harford County", sub-title "Roads", to follow immediately after Section 443 thereof, and to read as follows:

443A. *The County Commissioners of Harford County are hereby authorized to construct AND IMPROVE roads and drainage incident to said construction OR IMPROVEMENT on or along private roads, after the approval of a petition of ~~property owners~~ THE MAJORITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS WHOSE PROPERTY ABUTS ON THE ROAD TO BE CONSTRUCTED OR IMPROVED requesting that said roads be taken into the county roads system. In the exercise of the powers granted by this section, the County Commissioners may by proper ordinance, passed in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), adopt all necessary rules and conditions for the acceptance, construction, and maintenance of such roads and/or other authorized improvements by the county. Such ordinance may also provide for annual benefit assessments to be levied against the ~~adjoining~~ ABUTTING properties for the purpose of reimbursing the county for the cost of such improvements and the time and manner of payment, but not to exceed ten years. Annual benefit assessments shall be a first lien upon the property against which they are assessed, until paid, subject only to prior State and county taxes, and if any property be sold for State and county taxes, and there remains a surplus, then the County Commissioners may upon proper petition to the Circuit Court be allowed the payment of their lien.*

443B. *For the purpose of giving notice to the general public as to existing liens and charges against any property for benefit assessments, the County Commissioners shall keep a public record of all names of property owners and the locations of said property, and the amount of said benefit charges among the Land Records of Harford County under the supervision of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and the recordation with said Clerk of said benefit assessments shall be legal notice of such liens.*

443C. *The County Commissioners shall, on or before January 1, of each year, certify its benefit assessments hereunder to the Treasurer of Harford County for collection from the property owners affected, and said Treasurer shall add said benefit assessments to the State and county property tax bills for collection by October 1 in each year without interest or discount, and upon failure of payment of*