

(a) *The power to pass a resolution to initiate an urban renewal project pursuant to Section 218 of this subtitle.*

(b) *The power to issue general obligation bonds pursuant to Section 223 of this subtitle.*

(c) *The power to appropriate funds, and to levy taxes and assessments pursuant to Section 216(c) of this subtitle.*

Section 218. Initiation of Project.

In order to initiate an urban renewal project, the legislative body of the municipality shall adopt a resolution which

(a) *finds that one or more slum or blighted areas exist in such municipality;*

(b) *locates and defines the said slum or blighted areas;*

(c) *finds that the rehabilitation, redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or areas, is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals or welfare of the residents of such municipality.*

Section 219. Preparation and approval of Plan for Urban Renewal Project

The municipality, in order to carry out the purposes of this subtitle, shall prepare or cause to be prepared an urban renewal plan for slum or blighted areas in the municipality, and shall formally approve such plan. Prior to its approval of an urban renewal project, the municipality shall submit such plan to the planning body of the municipality, for review and recommendations as to its conformity with the master plan for the development of the municipality as a whole. The planning body shall submit its written recommendation with respect to the proposed urban renewal plan to the municipality within sixty days after receipt of the plan for review; upon receipt of the recommendation of the planning body or, if no recommendations are received within said sixty days, then without such recommendations, the municipality may proceed with a public hearing on the proposed urban renewal project. The municipality shall hold a public hearing on an urban renewal project after public notice thereof by publication in a newspaper having a general circulation within the corporate limits of the municipality. The notice shall describe the time, date, place and purpose of the hearing, shall generally identify the urban renewal area covered by the plan, and shall outline the general scope of the urban renewal project under consideration. Following such hearing, the municipality may approve an urban renewal project and the plan therefor if it finds that: (1) a feasible method exists for the location of any families who will be displaced from the urban renewal area in decent, safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations within their means and without undue hardship to such families; (2) the urban renewal plan substantially conforms to the master plan of the municipality as a whole; and (3) the urban renewal plan will afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the municipality as a whole, for the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the urban renewal area by private enterprise.

An urban renewal plan may be modified at any time, provided that if modified after the lease or sale of real property in the urban re-