

(6) acquisition of any other real property in the urban renewal area where necessary to eliminate unhealthful, unsanitary or unsafe conditions, lessen density, eliminate obsolete or other uses detrimental to the public welfare, or otherwise to remove or prevent the spread of blight or deterioration, or to provide land for needed public facilities.

(f) "Urban Renewal Area" shall mean a slum area or blighted area or both, which the County Commissioners for Howard County designates as appropriate for an urban renewal project.

(g) "Urban Renewal Plan" shall mean a plan, as it exists from time to time, for an urban renewal project, which plan shall be sufficiently complete to indicate such land acquisition, demolition and removal of structures, redevelopment, improvements, and rehabilitation as may be proposed to be carried out in the urban renewal area, zoning and planning changes, if any, land uses, maximum density, and building requirements.

#### 174D. Powers—Authority.

(a) The County Commissioners for Howard County ~~is~~ ARE hereby authorized and empowered to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this act:

(b) To carry out urban renewal projects, which shall be limited to slum clearance in slum or blighted areas and redevelopment thereof, or the rehabilitation of slum OR blighted areas.

(c) To acquire in connection with such projects, within Howard County, Maryland, land and property of every kind and any right, title, interest, franchise, easement, or privilege therein, including land or property or any right therein already devoted to public use by purchase, lease, gift, option, condemnation, or any other legal means, for development or redevelopment purposes, including, but not limited to, the demolition, comprehensive renovation or rehabilitation thereof, provided, however, that any land or property owned by the State of Maryland shall not be acquired without the prior consent of the State.

(d) To mortgage, pledge, or otherwise encumber or dispose of any real property, provided that statutory provision with respect to the acquisition, clearance, demolition or disposition of property by public bodies shall not apply to an Urban Renewal Project and related activities unless the legislature shall specifically so state.

(e) To develop or redevelop, including, but not limited to, the comprehensive renovation, or rehabilitation of any and all land or property acquired by any of the methods hereinbefore mentioned.

(f) To apply for and accept from the United States of America, the State of Maryland, or any department or agency thereof, or any other source, any loan, grant, gift, contribution or aid of any kind.

(g) To make and execute all contracts, agreements, deeds, leases, franchises, or other legal instruments, for such term and under such conditions as may be necessary or convenient to exercise and carry out the provisions of this Act, notwithstanding any limitations as to the term of years imposed by other laws on said contracts, agreements, deeds, leases or franchises.