

(8) to generally organize, coordinate and direct the administration of the provisions of this subtitle as they apply to such municipality in order that the objective of remedying slum and blighted areas and preventing the causes thereof within such municipality may be most effectively promoted and achieved;

(9) to exercise all or any part or combination of powers herein granted.

3. Establishment of Urban Renewal Agency

The municipality may itself exercise all the powers granted by this subtitle or may, if its legislative body by ordinance determines such action to be in the public interest, elect to have such powers exercised by a separate public body or agency as hereinafter provided. In the event said legislative body makes such determination, it shall proceed by ordinance to establish a public body or agency to undertake in the municipality the activities authorized by this subtitle. Such ordinance shall include provisions establishing the number of members of such public body or agency, the manner of their appointment and removal, the terms of said members and their compensation. The ordinance may include such additional provisions relating to the organization of said public body or agency as may be necessary. In the event the legislative body enacts such an ordinance, all of the powers by this sub-heading granted to the municipality shall, from the effective date of said ordinance, be vested in the public body or agency thereby established, except:

(1) The power to pass a resolution to initiate an urban renewal project pursuant to Section 4 of this subtitle.

(2) The power to issue general obligation bonds pursuant to Section 9 of this subtitle.

(3) The power to appropriate funds, and to levy taxes and assessments pursuant to Section 2 (3) of this subtitle.

4. Initiation of Project

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

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

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

(3) 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.

5. Preparation and Approval of Plan for Urban Renewal Project

(a) 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 recommenda-