

taken into the county roads system. In the exercise of the powers granted by this section, the County Commissioners by proper ordinance, passed in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition, as amended from time to time), may 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 abutting properties and other properties benefited by the construction or improvement, for the purpose of reimbursing the county for the cost of such improvements and the time and manner of payment, except that the time of payment may not 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 is sold for State and county taxes, and there remains a surplus over the amount of the taxes due, the County Commissioners upon proper petition to the Circuit Court may be allowed the payment of their lien.

443A.

(a) *The Director of Public Works has full power to grade and regulate sidewalks along all paved streets, lanes, and alleys in Harford County.*

(b) *If the Director of Public Works finds that any sidewalk or portion thereof is not properly graded and paved or is in bad repair or otherwise in a defective condition, he may in his judgment determine that it needs grading, paving, or repairing. In such case the Director of Public Works shall serve a written or printed notice on every person whose property binds or abuts upon the sidewalk or portion thereof which requires grading, paving, repaving, or repairing. In this notice he shall give all persons interested an opportunity within fifteen days after the date of the notice to show cause if any why the sidewalk area should not be graded, paved, or repaired. If the owner of any property cannot be found by the Director of Public Works, the notice shall be conspicuously posted upon the premises where the sidewalk is located.*

(c) *Any person dissatisfied with the decision of the Director of Public Works concerning the necessity for grading, paving, repaving, or repairing the sidewalk area within ten days after the date of the hearing before the Director of Public Works may appeal to the County Commissioners of Harford County. In such event the Board of County Commissioners shall hear the appeal and its decision shall be final as to the necessity for the work of grading, paving, repaving, or repairing the sidewalk area. If there is no appeal from the decision of the Director of Public Works or if after appeal his decision is affirmed by the Board of County Commissioners, the Director of Public Works shall have the sidewalk area properly graded, paved, repaved, or repaired; except that the owner of the property then has the option of having the work done himself with materials approved by the Director of Public Works, within thirty days after the hearing held by the Director of Public Works or after the decision of the Board of County Commissioners, as the case may be. In either event, the work shall be done under the supervision of the Director of Public Works and in accordance with his specifications therefor, using the materials and following the procedures usually followed in modern, improved sidewalk paving.*