

and governmental agencies may apply by submitting local project applications through the subdivisions to the Department of Forests and Parks.

(b) The Department of Forests and Parks shall administer the local projects portion of Program Open Space and shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations governing the submission of applications for grants by the subdivisions. Such rules and regulations shall be prepared in conjunction with the Department of State Planning and such other State, local or regional agencies or organizations as the Department of Forests and Parks may deem appropriate to consult. The Department of Forests and Parks shall process and submit applications, plans, and other supporting data, together with recommendations, to the Board of Public Works. The Board of Public Works may approve, or modify and approve, the recommendations submitted, provided that any modification made by the Board of Public Works shall be in accord with the rules and regulations promulgated and adopted by the Department of Forests and Parks. The Board of Public Works shall certify the obligation of funds for each approved project to the State Treasurer, and the Treasurer, through the Department of Forests and Parks, shall make such funds available to the governing body of the subdivision submitting the approved application.

(c) The State shall provide twenty-five percent (25%) of the total project cost for each approved local acquisition and/or development project. If federal funds are not available because of lack of funds the State shall provide additional funds, but not more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the total project cost.

(d) At least fifty percent (50%) of the funds allocated to a county annually, including any municipal corporation therein, shall be used for acquisition projects and fifty percent (50%) of the funds allocated to a county annually, including any municipal corporation therein, may be utilized for development projects. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the total funds allocated annually to a county, including any municipal corporation located therein, may be utilized for development projects prior to obligating the funds for acquisition but the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of the total funds allocated annually shall not be used for development projects until fifty percent (50%) of the funds allocated to the county have been obligated for acquisition. This provision shall not apply to Baltimore City.

(e) Land acquired or developed under a State grant from Program Open Space shall not, without the written approval of the Director of Forests and Parks and the Secretary of State Planning, be converted from outdoor public recreation or open space use to any other use. Such conversion in the land use may only be approved after the subdivision replaces the land with land of at least equivalent area and of equal recreation value.

(f) Each local project shall conform to a comprehensive plan approved by the local governing body and shall have the approval of official planning agencies having jurisdiction, including comprehensive planning agencies with area-wide jurisdiction.

(g) Local projects will not be considered or approved for a grant until the rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of