

(4) TO PREEMPT OR SUPERSEDE THE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF ANY STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY UNDER ANY PUBLIC GENERAL LAW.

The Charter of Baltimore City

Article II - General Powers

(57)

(A) (1) IT HAS BEEN AND SHALL CONTINUE TO BE THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO AUTHORIZE BALTIMORE CITY TO SUPPLANT DISPLACE OR LIMIT COMPETITION IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE, ECONOMICAL, AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES; TO PROTECT ITS CITIZENS FROM INCONSISTENT AND EXCESSIVE PRICES; TO PROVIDE NECESSARY AND DESIRED SERVICES IN ALL AREAS OF THE CITY; TO ENABLE THE CITY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN ORDER TO CONSERVE ENERGY AND REDUCE AIR POLLUTION, CONGESTION, TRAFFIC HAZARDS, AND ACCIDENTS; TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BY THE CONTRIBUTION BY THE CITY OF CAPITAL AND OPERATING FUNDS TO ENABLE TRANSPORTATION TO BE PROVIDED AT THE LOWEST COST TO ALL CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY THE INDIGENT; AND TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE BY CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

(2) BALTIMORE CITY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO GRANT ONE OR MORE FRANCHISES FOR A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ON AN EXCLUSIVE OR NONEXCLUSIVE BASIS, TO IMPOSE FRANCHISE FEES, TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN RATES, TO ESTABLISH RULES, REGULATIONS, AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS TO GOVERN THE OPERATION OF THE FRANCHISES, AND FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY SUCH MEASURE, AND TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ON AN EXCLUSIVE BASIS, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RULES, REGULATIONS, AND RATES, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY ANTICOMPETITIVE EFFECT.

(B) (1) IT HAS BEEN AND SHALL CONTINUE TO BE THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO AUTHORIZE BALTIMORE CITY TO SUPPLANT DISPLACE OR LIMIT COMPETITION IN THE AREA OF WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS AND WASTE-COLLECTION-SERVICES-AND-WASTE-DISPOSAL-SERVICES IN ORDER TO ASSURE DELIVERY OF ADEQUATE, ECONOMICAL, AND EFFICIENT SERVICES TO ITS CITIZENS, TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF FACILITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ITS CITIZENS, TO CONTROL DISEASE, TO PREVENT BLIGHT AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, TO-PROMOTE THE--GENERATION--OF--ENERGY--AND--THE--RECOVERY--OF--USABLE--RESOURCES FROM--WASTE, TO UTILIZE EFFICIENTLY THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, TO PROTECT LIMITED NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY, TO-LIMIT-WASTE, NOXIOUS-ODORS, AND UNSIGHTLY-GARBAGE AND--DEBRIS; AND TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE BY PROVIDING FOR ADEQUATE WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, ---WASTE COLLECTION-SERVICES-AND-WASTE-DISPOSAL-SERVICES.

(2) (1) BALTIMORE CITY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO GRANT ONE OR MORE FRANCHISES OR ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS, WASTE-COLLECTION-SERVICES-AND-WASTE-DISPOSAL-SERVICES ON AN EXCLUSIVE OR NONEXCLUSIVE BASIS TO ANY PERSON, TO IMPOSE FRANCHISE FEES, TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN RATES AND CHARGES, TO