

community center, street repairs, signage, lighting installation, landscaping, curb and gutter improvements, sidewalk construction, relocation of certain nonconforming businesses, construction of defensible space structures in multifamily dwelling developments, and other improvements to the existing buildings and land for the purpose of economic development and community enhancement, including the preservation of sites that are of historical significance to the County and State.

(4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as and when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years after the date of issuance of the bonds.

(5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 1998, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

(6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its interest:

(i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;  
and

(ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic structures.

(b) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust and the extent of the interest to be encumbered must be acceptable to the Trust.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1996.

Approved April 30, 1996.