

(2) The funds available in the Industrial and Commercial Redevelopment Fund; and

(3) The degree of State assistance needed for the project, with the objective of conserving the State's limited financial resources.

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(A) If an application for a grant or loan meets the general criterion and supporting factors and is justified in relation to competing applications and the amount of funds available, the Secretary shall make a preliminary finding of feasibility and communicate to the ~~political subdivision~~ APPLICANT any recommended changes in the project plan and any conditions to the loan or grant, not inconsistent with this subtitle or other law. The project plan, including the terms of the loan or grant, as revised by the process of consultation between the ~~political subdivision~~ APPLICANT and the Department, shall be submitted to the local governing body in its final form. On approval of the final plan, by ordinance or resolution, the Secretary shall recommend to the Board of Public Works approval of the loan or grant. The Board of Public Works may approve the loan or grant conditional on modifying its terms.

(B) THE SECRETARY MAY EXTEND THE TERM OF A LOAN OR GRANT MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE WITH THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT RECEIVED THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN WHICH THE PROJECT IS LOCATED.

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UNLESS THE PROCEEDS OF THE LOAN OR GRANT ARE TO BE EXPENDED DIRECTLY BY THE MARYLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, A LOAN OR GRANT MAY NOT BE MADE TO THE MARYLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE UNLESS THE SECRETARY DETERMINES THAT:

(1) A COUNTY'S OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION'S PLEDGE OF FULL FAITH AND CREDIT WOULD NOT BE FISCALLY PRUDENT DUE TO THE COUNTY'S OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION'S FINANCIAL SITUATION;

(2) THE PROJECT CONSTITUTES A SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE STATE; AND

(3) THE PROJECT'S EXPECTED REVENUE SUPPORTS THE REQUESTED FINANCING.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved May 22, 1997.