

(iii) An improvement to a facility used by the public or a public facility as those terms are defined in section 1 of Act No. 1 of the Public Acts of 1966, being section 125.1351 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, which improvement is made to comply with the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code promulgated under the state construction code act of 1972, Act No. 230 of the Public Acts of 1972, being sections 125.1501 to 125.1531 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(l) "Urban township" means a township that meets all three of the following requirements:

(i) Has a population of 20,000 or more, or has a population of 10,000 or more but is located in a county with a population of 400,000 or more.

(ii) Has adopted a master zoning plan before the effective date of this act.

(iii) Provides sewer, water, and other public services to all or a part of the township.

Sec. 3. (1) A municipality may establish not more than 1 authority under the provisions of this act. An authority shall exercise its powers in all authority districts.

(2) The authority shall be a public body corporate which may sue and be sued in any court of this state. The authority possesses all the powers necessary to carry out the purpose of its incorporation. The enumeration of a power in this act shall not be construed as a limitation upon the general powers of the authority. The powers granted in this act to an authority may be exercised notwithstanding that bonds are not issued by the authority.

Sec. 4. (1) The governing body of a city, village, or urban township may declare by resolution adopted by a majority of its members elected and serving its intention to create and provide for the operation of an authority.

(2) In the resolution of intent, the governing body shall set a date for holding a public hearing on the adoption of a proposed resolution creating the authority and designating the boundaries of the authority district or districts. Notice of the public hearing shall be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality, not less than 20 nor more than 40 days before the date of the hearing. Notice shall also be mailed to the property taxpayers of record in a proposed authority district not less than 20 days before the hearing. Failure of a property taxpayer to receive the notice shall not invalidate these proceedings. The notice shall state the date, time, and place of the hearing, and shall describe the boundaries of the proposed authority district or districts. At that hearing, a resident, taxpayer, or property owner from a taxing jurisdiction in which the proposed district is located has the right to be heard in regard to the establishment of the authority and the boundaries of that proposed authority district. The governing body of the municipality in which a proposed district is to be located shall not incorporate land into an authority district not included in the description contained in the notice of public hearing, but it may eliminate lands described in the notice of public hearing from an authority district in the final determination of the boundaries.

(3) After the public hearing, if the governing body creating the authority intends to proceed with the establishment of the authority, it shall adopt, by majority vote of its members elected and serving, a resolution establishing the authority and designating the boundaries of the authority district or districts within which the authority shall exercise its powers. The adoption of the resolution is subject to any applicable statutory or charter provisions with respect to the approval or disapproval of resolutions by the chief executive officer of the municipality and the adoption of a resolution over his or her veto. This resolution shall be filed with the secretary of state promptly after its adoption and shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality.

(4) The governing body may alter or amend the boundaries of an authority district to include or exclude lands from that authority district or create new authority districts in accordance with the same requirements prescribed for adopting the resolution creating the authority.

(5) The validity of the proceedings establishing an authority shall be conclusive unless contested in a court of competent jurisdiction within 60 days after the last of the following takes place:

(a) Publication of the resolution creating the authority as adopted.

(b) Filing of the resolution creating the authority with the secretary of state.

Sec. 5. (1) The authority shall be under the supervision and control of a board of 7 members appointed by the chief executive officer of the city, village, or urban township creating the authority subject to the approval of the governing body creating the authority. The board shall include 1 member appointed by the county board of commissioners of the county in which the authority is located. The board shall include 1 member representing a community or junior college in whose district the authority is located appointed by the chief executive officer of that community or junior college. The board shall also include 2 members appointed by the chief executive officer of each local governmental unit, other than the city, village, or urban township creating the authority, which levied 20% or more of the ad valorem property taxes levied against all property located in an authority district in the year before the year in which the authority district is established. However, those additional members shall only vote on matters relating to authority districts located within their respective local unit of government. Of the members first appointed, an equal number, as near as possible, shall have terms designated

by the governing body creating the authority of 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, and 4 years. However, a member shall hold office until the member's successor is appointed. After the first appointment, each member shall serve for a term of 4 years. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment. An appointment to fill an unexpired term shall be for the unexpired portion of the term only. Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses.

(2) The chairperson of the board shall be elected by the board.

(3) Before assuming the duties of office, a member shall qualify by taking and subscribing to the constitutional oath of office.

(4) The board shall adopt rules governing its procedure and the holding of regular meetings, subject to the approval of the governing body. Special meetings may be held when called in the manner provided in the rules of the board. Meetings of the board shall be open to the public, in accordance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(5) Subject to notice and an opportunity to be heard, a member of the board may be removed before the expiration of his or her term for cause by the governing body. Removal of a member is subject to review by the circuit court.

(6) All expense items of the authority shall be publicized annually and the financial records shall be open to the public pursuant to the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Sec. 6. (1) The board may employ and fix the compensation of a director, subject to the approval of the governing body creating the authority. The director shall serve at the pleasure of the board. A member of the board is not eligible to hold the position of director. Before entering upon the duties of the office, the director shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office and shall furnish bond by posting a bond in the penal sum determined in the resolution establishing the authority. The bond shall be payable to the authority for the use and benefit of the authority, approved by the board, and filed with the clerk of the municipality. The premium on the bond shall be considered an operating expense of the authority, payable from funds available to the authority for expenses of operation. The director shall be the chief executive officer of the authority. Subject to the approval of the board, the director shall supervise and be responsible for the preparation of plans and the performance of the functions of the authority in the manner authorized by this act. The director shall attend the meetings of the board and shall render to the board and to the governing body a regular report covering the activities and financial condition of the authority. If the director is absent or disabled, the board may designate a qualified person as acting director to perform the duties of the office. Before entering upon the duties of the office, the acting director shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office and furnish bond as required of the director. The director shall furnish the board with information or reports governing the operation of the authority as the board requires.

(2) The board may appoint or employ and fix the compensation of a treasurer who shall keep the financial records of the authority and who, together with the director, if a director is appointed, shall approve all vouchers for the expenditure of funds of the authority. The treasurer shall perform other duties as may be delegated by the board and shall furnish bond in an amount as prescribed by the board.

(3) The board may appoint or employ and fix the compensation of a secretary who shall maintain custody of the official seal and of records, books, documents, or other papers not required to be maintained by the treasurer. The secretary shall attend meetings of the board and keep a record of its proceedings and shall perform other duties as may be delegated by the board.

(4) The board may retain legal counsel to advise the board in the proper performance of its duties. The legal counsel may represent the authority in actions brought by or against the authority.

(5) The board may employ other personnel considered necessary by the board.

(6) The employees of an authority may be eligible to participate in municipal retirement and insurance programs of the municipality as if they were civil service employees on the same basis as civil service employees.

Sec. 7. The board may:

(a) Study and analyze unemployment, underemployment, and joblessness and the impact of growth upon the authority district or districts.

(b) Plan and propose the construction, renovation, repair, remodeling, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, or reconstruction of a public facility.

(c) Develop long-range plans, in cooperation with the agency which is chiefly responsible for planning in the municipality, to promote the growth of the authority district or districts, and take the steps that are necessary to implement the plans to the fullest extent possible to create jobs, and promote economic growth.