

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 652 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

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**Town of Bladensburg (Prince George's County) - Urban Renewal Authority  
for Slum Clearance  
PG 418-98**

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This bill authorizes the Town of Bladensburg, Prince George's County, to undertake urban renewal projects for slum clearance and redevelopment. The town may establish an urban renewal agency to undertake these projects. In order to initiate an urban renewal project, the town must adopt a resolution which finds that one or more slum or blighted areas exist, locates and defines the slum or blighted area, and determines that the rehabilitation of the area is in the public's interest. Before a plan for urban renewal can be undertaken, it must be approved by the town. The bill also requires the town to provide compensation to the appropriate parties when it acquires land or property for urban renewal purposes. In order to finance urban renewal projects, the town may levy taxes and assessments and issue general obligation bonds and revenue bonds. Any property acquired by the town for an urban renewal project may in turn be sold to any other parties provided the property is devoted to the uses specified in the urban renewal plan.

The provisions of the bill may only be amended or repealed by the General Assembly.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Town of Bladensburg revenues and expenditures could increase as discussed below.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful impact as discussed below.

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## Fiscal Analysis

**Local Effect:** At this time, the number of properties that would qualify as urban renewal projects for slum clearance and redevelopment cannot be determined. If the Town of Bladensburg undertakes such projects, expenditures would increase depending upon the purchase price. The town could also incur appraisal costs, settlement costs, and attorney's fees. It is expected that these costs could be offset by bond proceeds, additional taxes and assessments, and/or proceeds from the resale of the properties.

**Small Business Effect:** If the Town of Bladensburg undertakes urban renewal projects, the procurement process could result in additional revenues for any small businesses selected for part of an urban renewal project. In addition, once an urban renewal project is completed, there may be additional tourism or visitation to the area, providing additional opportunities and potential revenues for small businesses.

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**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 1998  
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