



**PART I** ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT  
(Chapters 1 through 182)

**TITLE XVII** PUBLIC WELFARE

**CHAPTER 121B** HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL

**Section 11** Powers of operating agencies

Section 11. Each operating agency shall have the powers and be subject to the limitations provided in sections one to sixteen, inclusive, shall have the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes of the relevant provisions of the General Laws and shall have the following powers in addition to those specifically granted in this chapter:—

- (a) To sue and be sued; to have a seal; to have corporate succession;
- (b) To act as agent of, or to cooperate with the federal government in any clearance, housing, relocation, urban renewal or other project which it is authorized to undertake;
- (c) To receive loans, grants and annual or other contributions from the federal government or from any other source, public or private;
- (d) To take by eminent domain under chapter seventy-nine or chapter eighty A, or to purchase or lease, or to acquire by gift, bequest or grant, and hold, any property, real or personal, or any interest therein, found by it to be necessary or reasonably required to carry out the purposes of this chapter, or any of its sections, and to sell, exchange, transfer, lease or assign the same; provided, that in case of a taking by eminent domain under said chapter seventy-nine, the provisions of section forty of said chapter shall be applicable, except that the security therein required shall be deposited with the mayor of the city or the selectmen of the town in which the property to be taken is situated. Except as herein otherwise provided, the provisions of chapters seventy-nine and eighty A relative to counties, cities, towns and districts, so far as pertinent, shall apply to operating agencies, and the members of a housing or redevelopment authority shall act on its behalf under those chapters.
- (e) To clear and improve any property acquired by it;
- (f) To engage in or contract for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling or repair of any clearance, housing, relocation, urban renewal or other project which it is authorized to undertake or parts thereof;

(g) To make relocation payments to persons and businesses displaced as a result of carrying out any such project;

(h) To borrow money for any of its purposes upon the security of its bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, and to secure the same by mortgages upon property held or to be held by it or by pledge of its revenue, including without limitation grants or contributions by the federal government, or in any other lawful manner, and in connection with the incurrence of any indebtedness to covenant that it shall not thereafter mortgage the whole or any specified part of its property or pledge the whole or any specified part of its revenues;

(i) To invest in securities legal for the investment of funds of savings banks any funds held by it and not required for immediate disbursement;

(j) To enter into, execute and carry out contracts with any person or organization undertaking a project under chapter one hundred and twenty-one A;

(k) To enter, with the approval of the mayor or board of selectmen and the department, into agreements with the federal government relative to the acceptance or borrowing of funds for any project it is authorized to undertake and containing such covenants, terms and conditions as the operating agency, with like approval, may deem desirable; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed to require approval by the mayor or selectmen or the department of requisition agreements and similar contracts between an agency and the federal government which are entered into pursuant to an agreement approved by them;

(l) To enter into, execute and carry out contracts and all other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of the powers granted in this chapter;

(m) To make, and from time to time amend or repeal, subject to the approval of the department, by-laws, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with pertinent rules and regulations of the department to govern its proceedings and effectuate the purposes of this chapter;

(n) To join or cooperate with one or more other operating agencies in the exercise, either jointly or otherwise, of any of their powers for the purpose of financing, including the issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations and the giving of security therefor, planning, undertaking, owning, constructing, operating or contracting with respect to any project or projects authorized by this chapter located within the area within which one or more of such authorities are authorized to exercise their powers; and for such purpose to prescribe and authorize, by resolution, any operating agency so joining and cooperating with it to act in its behalf in the exercise of any of such powers; and

(o) To lease energy saving systems that replace non-renewable fuels with renewable energy such as solar powered systems.



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**Section 46** Powers of urban renewal agency

Section 46. An urban renewal agency shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes of relevant provisions of the General Laws, and shall have the following powers in addition to those specifically granted in section eleven or elsewhere in this chapter:—

(a) to determine what areas within its jurisdiction constitute decadent, substandard or blighted open areas;

(b) to prepare plans for the clearance, conservation and rehabilitation of decadent, substandard or blighted open areas, including plans for carrying out a program of voluntary repair and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements, plans for the enforcement of laws, codes and regulations relating to the use of land and the use or occupancy of buildings and improvements, plans for the compulsory repair and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements, and plans for the demolition and removal of buildings and improvements;

(c) to prepare or cause to be prepared urban renewal plans, master or general plans, workable programs for development of the community, general neighborhood renewal plans, community renewal programs and any plans or studies required or assisted under federal law;

(d) to engage in urban renewal projects, and to enforce restrictions and controls contained in any approved urban renewal plan or any covenant or agreement contained in any contract, deed or lease by the urban renewal agency notwithstanding that said agency may no longer have any title to or interest in the property to which such restrictions and controls apply or to any neighboring property;

(e) to conduct investigations, make studies, surveys and plans and disseminate information relative to community development, including desirable patterns for land use and community growth, urban renewal, relocation, and any other matter deemed by it to be material in connection with any of its powers and duties, and to make such studies, plans and information available to the federal government, to agencies or subdivisions of the commonwealth and to interested persons;

(f) to develop, test and report methods and techniques and carry out demonstrations for the prevention and elimination of slums and urban blight;

(g) to receive gifts, loans, grants, contributions or other financial assistance from the federal government, the commonwealth, the city or town in which it was organized or any other source; and

(h) In any city whose population exceeds one hundred and fifty thousand, to own, construct, finance and maintain intermodal transportation terminals within an urban renewal project area. As used in this clause an "intermodal transportation terminal" shall mean a facility modified as necessary to accommodate several modes of transportation which may include, without limitation, inter-city mass transit service, rail or rubber tire, motor bus transportation, railroad transportation, and airline ticket offices and passenger terminal providing direct transportation to and from airports.