GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA 1993 SESSION

CHAPTER 690 HOUSE BILL 1661

AN ACT TO PERMIT THE USE OF POWELL BILL FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 136-66.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-66.1. Responsibility for streets inside municipalities.

Responsibility for streets and highways inside the corporate limits of municipalities is hereby defined as follows:

- (1) The State Highway System. The State highway system inside the corporate limits of municipalities shall consist of a system of major streets and highways necessary to move volumes of traffic efficiently and effectively from points beyond the corporate limits of the municipalities through the municipalities and to major business, industrial, governmental and institutional destinations located inside the municipalities. The Department of Transportation shall be responsible for the maintenance, repair, improvement, widening, construction and reconstruction of this system. These streets and highways within corporate limits are of primary benefit to the State in developing a statewide coordinated system of primary and secondary streets and highways.
- (2) The Municipal Street System. In each municipality the municipal street system shall consist of those streets and highways accepted by the municipality which are not a part of the State highway system. The municipality shall be responsible for the maintenance, construction, reconstruction, and right-of-way acquisition for this system.
- (3) Maintenance of State Highway System by Municipalities. Any city or town, by written contract with the Department of Transportation, may undertake to maintain, repair, improve, construct, reconstruct or widen those streets within municipal limits which form a part of the State highway system, and may also, by written contract with the Department of Transportation, undertake to install, repair and maintain highway signs and markings, electric traffic signals and other traffic-control devices on such streets. All work to be performed by the city or town under such contract or contracts shall be in accordance with Department of Transportation standards, and the consideration to be paid by the Department of Transportation to the city or town for such

- work, whether in money or in services, shall be adequate to reimburse the city or town for all costs and expenses, direct or indirect, incurred by it in the performance of such work.
- (4) If the governing body of any municipality shall determine that it is in the best interest of its citizens to do so, it may expend its funds for the purpose of making the following improvements on streets within its corporate limits which form a part of the State highway system:
 - a. Construction of curbing and guttering;
 - b. Adding of lanes for automobile parking;
 - c. Constructing street drainage facilities which may by reasonable engineering estimates be attributable to that amount of surface water collected upon and flowing from municipal streets which do not form a part of the State highway system;
 - d. Constructing sidewalks; provided, that no part of the funds allocated to the municipality by G.S. 136-41.1 may be expended for sidewalk purposes. sidewalks.
 - e. Intersection improvements, if the governing body determines that such improvements will decrease traffic congestion, improve safety conditions, and improve air quality.

In exercising the authority granted herein, the municipality may, with the consent of the Department of Transportation, perform the work itself, or it may enter into a contract with the Department of Transportation to perform such work. Any work authorized by this subdivision shall be financed entirely by the municipality and be approved by the Department of Transportation.

The cost of any work financed by a municipality pursuant to this subdivision may be assessed against the properties abutting the street or highway upon which such work was performed in accordance with the procedures of either Article 10 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes or any charter provisions or local acts applicable to the particular municipality."

Sec. 1.1. The first paragraph of G.S. 136-41.3 reads as rewritten:

"The funds allocated to cities and towns under the provisions of G.S. 136-41.2 shall be expended by said cities and towns only for the purpose of maintaining, repairing, constructing, reconstructing or widening of any street or public thoroughfare including bridges, drainage, curb and gutter, and other necessary appurtenances within the corporate limits of the municipality or for meeting the municipality's proportionate share of assessments levied for such purposes, or for the planning, construction and maintenance of bikeways located within the rights-of-way of public streets and highways. highways, or for the planning, construction, and maintenance of sidewalks along public streets and highways."

Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 6th day of July, 1994.

Dennis A. Wicker President of the Senate

Daniel Blue, Jr. Speaker of the House of Representatives