

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Alice Kennedy, Housing Commissioner

Date: June 28, 2022

Re: City Council Bill 22-0233 Bond Issue - Affordable Housing Loan - \$14,000,000

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0233 for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore (pursuant to General Assembly House Resolution I and Senate Resolution I of 2022 approved by the members of the Maryland General Assembly representing Baltimore City) to create a debt, and to issue and sell, at any time or from time to time and in one or more series its certificates of indebtedness as evidence thereof, and proceeds not exceeding FOURTEEN Million (\$14,000,000.00) from the sale of such certificates of indebtedness to be used for the cost of issuance, including the expense of engraving, printing, advertising, attorneys' fees, and all other incidental expenses connected therewith (which may include the proportion of the compensation of employees and general administrative expenses of the Department of Finance reasonably allocated to the issuance of the bonds); and the remainder of such proceeds shall be used for or in connection with planning, developin...

At its regular meeting of May 19, 2022, the Planning Commission concurred with the recommendation of departmental staff and recommended approval of City Council Bill 22-0233.

The bond funds will be utilized by the city for the development, construction, preservation and operation of both rental and owner-occupied affordable housing including, but not limited to support efforts to increase homeownership such as housing counseling services and buyer incentives critical to the continued growth of Baltimore's population. Bond funding furthers DHCD's mission to improve the quality of life for all Baltimore City residents by revitalizing and redeveloping communities and promoting access to quality affordable housing opportunities in safe, livable neighborhoods. The issuance of bonds provides gap funding and ensure continual creation and preservation of economically diverse housing across Baltimore City.

DHCD **supports** the passage of Council Bill 22-0233 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

AK/sm