



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Bill: 22-0300

Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority - Renewal Through April 23, 2027

Sponsor: Councilmember Costello

Introduced: November 21, 2022

Purpose:

For the purpose of renewing and continuing the Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the activities and authority of the Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority.

Effective: The date of enactment.

Agency Reports

City Solicitor	Favorable
Department of Planning	Favorable
Department of Finance	Not Opposed
Department of Transportation	Favorable
Department of Housing and Community Development	Favorable
Baltimore Development Corporation	Favorable
Board of Estimates	



Analysis

Current Law

Ordinance 07-417 (the “Ordinance”) authorized the creation of the Waterfront Management District (the “District”) and the Waterfront Management Authority (the “Authority”), subject to certain terms and conditions.

Since creation, the District and Authority have been authorized for renewal as follows:

- Resolution 11-29, through April 23, 2015;
- Resolution 15-21, through April 23, 2019; and
- Resolution 19-15, through April 23, 2023.
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Bill 22-0300 would allow renewal through April 23, 2027.

Article II, § (63)(g) {“*Periodic review - General*”} of the Charter requires that the Mayor and City Council review the effectiveness and desirability of continuing the existence of the District and Authority every 4 years from the enactment of the Ordinance. More specifically, Article 14, § 8-16 {“4-year reviews.”} of the Code requires that the Mayor and City Council hold 1 or more public hearings every 4 years to evaluate the activities and undertakings of the District and the Authority and to determine whether the District and Authority should continue for another 4 years.

Background

Bill 22-0300 proposes:

- to renew and continue the Waterfront Management District
- to renew and continue the Waterfront Management Authority
- provide for a special effective date

The Waterfront Management District is a special taxing district. Created in 2007, boundaries of the District include the waterfront area, the Inner Harbor, Harbor East, Harbor Point, and Fells Point. The District is managed by the Waterfront Partnership, a non-profit organization acting as the Management Authority. The District also has a Board of Directors which prepares the annual operating budget and manages funds received from a property tax surcharge.

Property tax surcharges are approved by property owners within the District’s boundaries. The District currently consists of 361 total properties, 337 of which are taxable and 24 that are not taxable. The Fiscal 2023 estimated revenue generated from surcharges is \$3,228,242. Funds collected are used to

provide additional sanitation and safety services such as safety patrols, graffiti removal, street cleaning, abandoned vehicle removal and crime alerts.

See the attached Annual Report/ 2022 Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): Bill 22-0300; Agency Reports, Baltimore City Code

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