

## **Odette Ramos**

## Baltimore City Councilwoman District 14

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Baltimore MD 21202

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## Testimony 23-0374 – Sale of Property - 707 E 34<sup>th</sup> Street SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Costello and Distinguished Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing to humbly request your favorable report for 23-0374 Sale of Property – 707 E 34<sup>th</sup> Street. This property is known in the Waverly community as the Venable Building, as it once was the Venable High School. It was later Waverly Middle School.

The school was vacated after the new Waverly Elementary/Middle School was built, and as such has been vacant for over 10 years.

The Waverly community has gone through an extensive process to determine the best use for this building. Baltimore City DHCD and Waverly went through three RFP processes, with the first two failing to provide the community with viable options. On the third try, the community chose Schreiber Brothers and Brick by Brick Solutions, LLC as the developer. Residents from Waverly are part of the development team.

The building will remain intact and transformed into 37 apartments for teachers and para educators. It will also be a net zero building.

The entire complex will be disposed of in this deal. This includes the building itself, plus a space where currently a portable building sits. The portable will be demolished to create greenspace for the community and parking for the residents of the apartments.

I am requesting your favorable report. Waverly is excited for the new opportunity with this building.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Odette Ramos** 

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