


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 10-0619		

TO

DATE: February 8, 2011

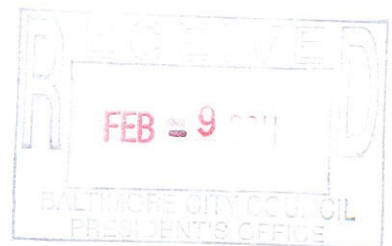
The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 10-0619 introduced by the Council President on behalf of the Administration (Baltimore Development Corporation).

The purpose of the Bill is to renew and continue the Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority; provide for a special effective date; and generally relating to the activities and authority of the Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority.

Ordinance 07-417 authorized the creation of the Waterfront Management District and the Waterfront Management Authority for an area of the Inner Harbor extending from the Rusty Scupper to the Bond Street Wharf. Commercial property owners within the specified area have additional taxes and charges imposed upon them to provide expanded and supplemental public services. Residential buildings and condominium units are exempt from the special tax. The City collects and disburses to the Authority the revenue it collects on the Authority's behalf. The Authority establishes an annual budget, creates partnerships, borrows funds, contracts for goods and services, and can assist with the leasing, marketing and promotion of the District. The financial plan and rates and charges are subject to Board of Estimates approval. The Authority is governed and administered by a Board of Directors that has a maximum of 25 members, two thirds of whom must be representatives of property owners subject to the Special District Tax. No later than four years after the establishing of the District, and every subsequent four year interval, the Mayor and City Council must hold a public hearing to evaluate the activities of the Authority and District to determine whether the District should continue for another four years. City Council Bill 10-0619, if approved, would renew the District and Authority through April 23, 2015.

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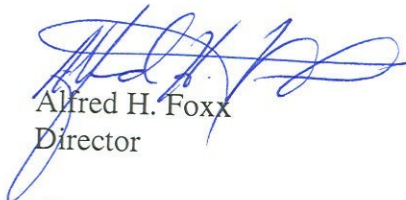


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The Department of Public Works is an active partner in the Waterfront Management District and Authority, and will continue to provide the baseline services and participate in the teamwork approach developed under this organization. In particular, the Waterfront Partnership has been active in helping to keep the Inner Harbor an attractive and welcoming environment for visitors and residents alike. A recent project of note is the soon to be completed Pierce's Park on Pier 5 that will provide a safe, landscaped area appealing to families. This amenity is possible due to the hard work and fund-raising capacity of the Waterfront Partnership.

Of special importance to this Department is the Partnership's interest in promoting a clean Harbor. With the goal of a fishable, swimmable Harbor by 2020, the Waterfront Partnership just held their second State of the Harbor Conference on February 5th. Attended by over 300 people, frank discussions and exchanges of successful approaches to cleaning up urban waterways and our environment were held over the course of the day. It is particularly heartening to see such enthusiastic leadership for our waters demonstrated by this business-oriented organization. This Department looks forward to continuing collaborations with the Waterfront Partnership.

The Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 10-0619 to extend the Waterfront Management District and Waterfront Management Authority for an additional four years.



Alfred H. Foxx
Director

AHF/MMC:pat