
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

February 27, 2024

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 24-0209R – Informational Hearing – Examining
Baltimore’s Bike Infrastructure

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 24-0209R for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would invite representatives of the Baltimore City Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Parking Authority of Baltimore City, the Mayor’s Office on Infrastructure Development, the Office of Equity and Civil Rights, the Baltimore City Public School System, Bikemore, community leaders, local business owners, and other interested parties to discuss: (1) the process of developing new bike infrastructure; (2) the rationale for investing in bike infrastructure and its relationship to larger public transit infrastructure needs and goals; (3) how to achieve greater neighborhood engagement from private citizens and business owners; and (4) strategic planning of new infrastructure for all communities, including updated funding models and consideration of public safety ramifications of existing and proposed infrastructure, before developing new bike infrastructure.

In general, Art. III, §9 of the City Charter and City Code Art. 1, §1-4 give the City Council authority to study or investigate the operation of City agencies and to make recommendations for the more effective operation of the agencies. Article III, §9 of the Charter requires department heads, municipal officers not embraced in a department, and members of commissions and boards to appear before the City Council if so requested to participate in the discussion of matters relating to their respective departments, offices, commissions, or boards. The Council cannot compel representatives from outside of City government to attend the hearing. However, individuals or representatives from non-City entities may appear voluntarily.

Council Bill 24-0209R is an appropriate resolution to initiate the informational hearing and request the specified officials to attend to discuss issues surrounding bike infrastructure in the City. The Law Department approves Council Bill 24-0209R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michele Toth".

Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony M. Thompson
Nina Themelis
Tiffany Maclin
Elena DiPietro
Hilary Ruley
Ashlea Brown
Jeffery Hochstetler