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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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November 19, 2019

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 19-0438 – City Streets – Closing– North Durham Street  
and a 16-Foot Alley

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0438 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would allow the City to condemn and close North Durham Street from East Eager Street northerly for approximately 433 feet to the south side of East Chase Street, deeming it no longer needed for public use. The bill would also allow the City to condemn and close a sixteen-foot alley on the west side of North Durham street, also deeming it no longer needed for public use. The bill expressly reserves the rights the Mayor and City Council has in the structures located under the street bed, including access rights.

Section (34) of Article II of the City Charter grants the Mayor and City Council the power to “construct, open, extend, widen, straighten or close streets, bridges, tunnels or approaches to them and other public ways of every kind within the bounds of the City.” Section 116(b)(2) of Article VII of the City Charter requires the Department of Transportation to prepare all ordinances for the opening and closing of streets. As this bill meets with the applicable sections of the Charter, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hilary Ruley".

Hilary Ruley  
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre M. Davis, City Solicitor  
Jeffrey Amoros, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor  
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor