



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: May 30, 2013

Re: **City Council Bill 13-0182 – Sale of Properties – Former Beds of a Portion of Fremont Avenue and 2 Portions of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 13-0182, which was introduced for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain parcels of land known as the former beds of a portion of Fremont Avenue and 2 portions of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard lying between Fairmount Avenue and Hollins Street and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

This bill, if enacted, would authorize the sale of the city-owned properties known as the former beds of a portion of Fremont Avenue and two portions of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. These parcels are located in the University of Maryland BioPark section of the city and sit roughly between the south side of W. Fairmount Avenue with S. Fremont Avenue on the western edge and portions of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard right of way on the eastern edge, and bounded on the southern edge by Hollins Street.

Specifically, there are three distinct city-owned property parcels that will be authorized for sale:

1. A portion of the former street bed of S. Fremont Avenue from its intersection with Booth Street along the easterly side of the right of way;
2. A portion of the former bed of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, adjacent to S. Fremont Avenue and W. Baltimore St; and
3. A portion of the former bed of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard right of way located on the west edge of the Boulevard between W. Baltimore St and W. Fairmount Avenue.

City Council Bill 13-0182, along with its companion legislation, City Council Bill 13-0180 and City Council Bill 13-0181, which would open and close the rights of way, respectively, will allow for the entire site to be redeveloped as part of the University of Maryland BioPark site. It is the understanding of HCD that the BioPark will landscape and maintain the subject properties, which are to remain accessible to the public.

The Department of Housing and Community Development has no objection to the adoption of City Council Bill 13-0182.

PTG:nb

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, *Deputy Mayor*

