

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ERNEST W. BURKEEN JR., Director
DR. RALPH W. E. JONES, JR. BUILDING
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
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May 27, 2015

Honorable President Bernard Young
Members of the City Council
Baltimore City Council
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: **Council Bill # 15-0497**
Amending Jonestown Urban Renewal Plan

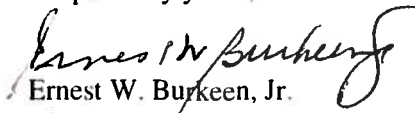
Dear President Young:

The Department of Recreation and Parks is reporting on City Council Bill # 15-0497. This Bill is for the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Jonestown to add a new disposition lot to the Renewal Plan, to revise Exhibit 1 to reflect a land use change in a portion of the new disposition lot, and to revise Exhibit 3 to reflect the addition of the new disposition lot; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

The Department of Recreation and Parks has reviewed this Bill and has considered its intent. The amendments will accommodate the creation of a new 60,000 square foot building to be used as a Ronald McDonald House. The crux of our involvement will be related to the specifics pertaining to the lease agreement and MOU with the new Ronald McDonald House planned to be located in the 1200 block of East Baltimore Street that would replace the facility now located at 635 W. Lexington Street. The purpose of the facility will be to provide increased lodging and support for families of critically ill children being treated in local area hospitals. The new facility is scheduled to open in 2017.

Therefore, the Department of Recreation and Parks SUPPORTS Council Bill 15-0497.

Respectfully yours,


Ernest W. Burkeen, Jr.
Director

EWB:VSO

cc: Angela Gibson, Liaison to City Council

