



Equity and Civil Rights

CITY COUNCIL BILL: 24-0493

BILL REPORT

SALE OF 1807 HARLEM AVENUE

TO: The Honorable Nick Mosby, President, Baltimore City Council
FROM: Dana Petersen Moore, Director, Office of Equity and Civil Rights
THRU: Nina Themelis, Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
ANALYST: Dana Petersen Moore, Director, Office of Equity and Civil Rights
DATE: March 11, 2024
POSITION: **Favorable**

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Equity and Civil Rights (OECR) has reviewed and is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0493 – Sale of 1807 Harlem Avenue. The bill authorizes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell at either public auction or private sale, all of its interest in the property located at 1807 Harlem Avenue, Baltimore, MD (Block 0108, Lot 030). The bill codifies that the property is no longer needed for public use. The bill also provides that the ordinance will take effect on the date that it is enacted. Last, the bill clarifies that the sale is pursuant to the authority of Article V, Section 5 (b), Baltimore City Charter (1996 Edition).

BACKGROUND

The building situated at 1807 Harlem Avenue was constructed in 1976, consists of two stories, has a building area of approximately 48,600 square feet, and occupies approximately 1.2 acres. Situated in the 21217 zip code, the property is currently zoned as R-8.

Located in West Baltimore near Harlem Park, the building has housed two schools. First, Harriet Tubman Elementary School, and then, Roots and Branches Charter School. Roots and Branches served young scholars in grades kindergarten to grade 5. The school closed in 2021. There are approximately three public schools within 0.5 miles of the former school. The understanding is that the property has been vacant since the school's closure.

ANALYSIS

The planned sale is pursuant to and consistent with the City Charter. Specifically, it is within the purview of the Baltimore City Comptroller to manage the sale process, and the Comptroller is doing so. There is no perceived or actual inequity in the process.

CONCLUSION

The Office of Equity and Civil Rights supports a **favorable** committee report on Bill 24-0493.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dana P. Moore".

Dana Petersen Moore, Director