


TJA

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b>  <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #18-0193/ FOOD DESERT INCENTIVE AREAS – EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS FOR TAX CREDIT		

**TO**

DATE:

March 9, 2018

The Honorable President and  
 Members of the City Council  
 City Hall, Room 400  
 100 North Holliday Street

The Department of Planning is in receipt of City Council Bill #18-0193, which is for the purpose of establishing a new minimum expenditure requirement for substantially renovated supermarkets that is lower than the expenditure requirement for newly constructed supermarkets; and generally relating to the qualifications for a tax credit granted to certain supermarkets in a Food Desert Incentive Area.

The Department of Planning recommends approval of City Council Bill #18-0193, in order to support existing grocery stores to stay in the city. This bill amends City Ordinance Article 28, Section 10-30 to reduce the threshold of investment required during renovation through a tiered requirement based on store size. The existing investment requirements are appropriate for new stores, but in many cases are unrealistic for stores to meet through renovation. This amended approach will better support the intended goal of grocery store retention while still encouraging investment in the city and high quality food retail.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Tiso, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at 410-396-8358.

TJS/ewt

- cc: Mr. Pete Hammen, Chief Operating Officer  
 Mr. Jim Smith, Chief of Strategic Alliances  
 Ms. Karen Stokes, Mayor's Office  
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Mayor's Office  
 Mr. Kyron Banks, Mayor's Office  
 The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission  
 Mr. William H. Cole IV, BDC  
 Mr. Derek Baumgardner, BMZA  
 Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration  
 Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD  
 Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.  
 Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC  
 Ms. Katelyn McCauley, DOT  
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services  
 Ms. Holly Freishtat, Food Policy Director