



DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP OF BALTIMORE, INC.
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May 18, 2010

The Hon. Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor
Baltimore City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: Support for CB 10-484 - Downtown Management District Adjustment to Supplemental Tax

Dear Mayor Rawlings-Blake:

On behalf of Downtown Partnership of Baltimore and its board of directors, I am writing in support of CB 10-0484: Downtown Management District Adjustment to Supplemental Tax which would give The Partnership greater ability to fund programs and projects, including needed capital improvements, within the Downtown Management Authority (DMA) district that The Partnership oversees.

CB 10-0484 represents a minor update to the existing statute by giving Downtown Partnership (the oldest management district in the city and one of the oldest in the country) the same ability to set assessments that is currently enjoyed by other management organizations in Baltimore.

At a time when government is forced to cut services and funding for needed infrastructure improvements, it is important to give a proven private sector organization the tools it needs to fill the void. For more than 25 years, Downtown Partnership has supplemented City services with great results.

The board of directors which oversees the Downtown Management Authority district is comprised of property owners and rate payers within the district. It has voted to support CB 10-0484 and recognizes that, if passed, the bill will help Downtown Partnership expand its work in a way that is much needed and financially sound for Downtown stakeholders.

That is why I respectfully urge the Council to pass CB 10-0484.

Sincerely,

Kirby Fowler
President

Cc: The Honorable Jack Young, Council President
The Honorable William Cole, Baltimore City Council, 11th District
Kaliopé Parthemos, Office of the Mayor
Angela Gibson, Office of the Mayor

