F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 11-0699

BALTIMORE

MEMO

TO

DATE: June 9, 2011

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Karen Randle Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 11-0699 introduced by Council Members Henry, Middleton, Branch, Holton, Kraft, Stokes, Welch, Conaway, Clarke, Curran, and Reisinger.

The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council to grant variances as part of an ordinance authorizing or amending a conditional use or authorizing or amending a Planned Unit Development Plan; and generally relating to zoning variances, conditional uses, and Planned Unit Developments.

Ordinance 03-636 authorized the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to grant variances to the Zoning Article of the Baltimore City Revised Code either through action by the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals or as part of a Mayor and City Council ordinance authorizing a conditional use. While Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinances have established variances through their passage since the adoption of Ordinance 03-636, the Department of Law communicated to the Planning Department that PUD ordinances are similar to but not identical to conditional use ordinances and therefore might be called into question. City Council Bill 11-0699, if approved, would amend the Zoning Article of the Baltimore City Revised Code to clarify that a Mayor and City Council ordinance process may authorize or amend a conditional use or a PUD.

The Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 11-0699 provided the legislation is approved by the Department of Law.

Director

AHF/MMC:pat

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