



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 27, 2022
TO: Economic & Community Development Committee
FROM: Colin Tarbert, President and CEO
POSITION: Favorable
SUBJECT: Council Bill No. 22-0291 Urban Renewal – Market Center – Amendment

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin Tarbert".

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill 22-0291 introduced by Councilmember Costello.

PURPOSE

This bill would reauthorize the Market Center Urban Renewal Plan, which requires an amendment to be passed every four years.

BRIEF HISTORY

The Market Center Urban Renewal Plan (URP) was established in 1977 for the purpose of revitalizing this district as a mixed-use neighborhood linking the University Center area with the Central Business District. Among other things, the Urban Renewal Plan aims to assure harmonious development in the area by requiring that all plans for new development, including exterior rehabilitation or demolition, be reviewed, and approved as consistent with the objectives of the plan.

The URP also provides the City, through the Department of Housing and Community Development, the authority to acquire and dispose of properties within the URP area. This disposition authority, in particular, has been utilized by BDC to sell dozens of city-owned parcels for private redevelopment over the last decade. The need for such authority remains, with approximately 40 City-owned parcels still in need of disposition.

FISCAL IMPACT [to BDC]

None.

AGENCY POSITION

The Baltimore Development Corporation respectfully requests a **favorable** report on City Council Bill 22-0291. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Clark at 410-837-9305 or KClark@baltimoredevelopment.com.

cc: Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Sophia Gebrehiwot, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

[LC]