

Leva, Anthony F (City Council)

From: Nicole King <nking@umbc.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 12:14 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Writing in Support of Council Bill 25-0003 Conservation District

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I am writing in support of Council Bill 25-0003 (CHAP Conservation District). With their less-restrictive design review and neighborhood-led design process, Conservation Districts offer more flexible and inclusive options for historic preservation in Baltimore.

My research and teaching interests focus on place, power, and the tensions between historic preservation and economic development. I have taught the course "Preserving Places, Making Spaces in Baltimore" since 2009 at UMBC and co-founded the [Bmore Historic](#) annual unconference in 2011.

Conservation Districts provide a more flexible and affordable way to expand the beneficial aspects of historic preservation for all historic neighborhoods in Baltimore. Baltimore City will be following trends in the field of historic preservation and social history that recognize the important contributions of marginalized people, vernacular architecture, and the preservation of greenspaces important to the historic fabric of our neighborhoods and city with this ordinance.

My work with residents in Poppleton from 2020 to 2023 should not have been as difficult as it was to create the Sarah Ann Street Local Historic District. The City of Baltimore must be proactive in expanding the social and economic benefits of historic preservation throughout our city, especially in its disinvested neighborhoods.

There will be issues to address, but I strongly support Conservation Districts in Baltimore City.

Sincerely,

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