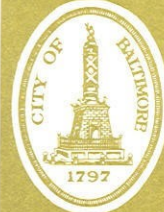


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Khalil A. Zaied, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of General Services 800 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 09-0177R		

DATE: March 30, 2010

TO

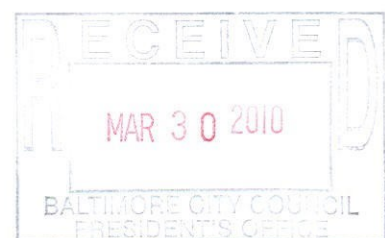
The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 09-0177R introduced by Council Member Clarke, Middleton, Henry, Kraft, Young, Holton, Spector, Reisinger, Curran, Conaway, and D'Adamo.

The purpose of the Resolution is to call upon the Department of Transportation to develop and conduct BMore Streets for People, the special and periodic closing of city arteries to vehicular traffic for the purpose of welcoming jogging, biking, skateboarding and other people-engaging activities in temporary closed-roadbed havens; and to call upon the collaborative commitments of the Departments of Transportation, Health, Police, General Services and the Office for the Promotion and the Arts and Sustainability to engage in formal fashion among themselves, and with co-sponsoring organizations and neighborhoods, to plan and implement regular BMore Streets for People events throughout the City with venues approved by proposed "host" communities.

The Department of General Services is the agency that issues special event permits. These permits may cover everything from simple block parties to marathons and Artscape-type events. The permitting process allows for the coordinated review and approval by multiple agencies for these requests to block off or control access to rights-of-way for specific purposes and time periods. Event organizers are expected to pay for costs incurred by City personnel to close off, police, and clean up after events. For large scale events, affected agencies meet to coordinate their activities to ensure smooth execution of responsibilities during the events. The BMore Streets for People activities would require such a permit. The October 25, 2009 Sunday Streets event on Roland Avenue mentioned in the Resolution as an example of the type of closures desired for the BMore Streets for People events did receive a special events permit.

Comments



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In response to City Council Resolution 09-0143R and at the request of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, the Department of General Services spearheaded the effort to streamline and make readily accessible the application and approval process for these permits, as well as creating a means to identify and track these permitted uses. In conducting this effort, General Services has worked with representatives from Transportation, Police, Fire, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, Baltimore Office for the Promotion and the Arts, Public Works, Recreation and Parks, to name just a few. The Department of General Services remains committed to working with organizations whose members and participating communities are interested in hosting a BMore Streets for People event.


Khalil A. Zaied
Director

DES/MMC:pat