


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: March 4, 2009

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 09-0273
Loading Zones – Fee for Maintaining

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill # 09-0273, which would impose an annual fee for establishing and maintaining passenger loading zones and freight loading zones, and correcting, clarifying and conforming related provisions governing loading zones.

While appreciative of the intent of the bill, BDC has concern as to the practicality of trying to implement the affixing of fees for loading zones. In most areas of the city, such loading zones actually serve more than one business establishment, usually several. It would be difficult to determine which one business is responsible for paying the fee, or if shared by several businesses, exactly how to apportion the fee responsibility and assure payment by all businesses receiving benefit of the loading zone. It is also possible that a proliferation of such zones could occur due to a fee paying business considering a particular loading zone as its entitled service area. This could result in further reducing available on-street parking needed to support our commercial areas. Further, those businesses not willing to pay the annual fee, and lacking an off-street service area, may encourage the already problematic “double parking” of service vehicles in moving lanes of the street.

For the above reasons, BDC cannot support Bill # 09-0273 as written, and respectfully suggests the bill be amended to address the concerns stated above.

cc: Andrew Frank
Angela Gibson

sandra_gladden/ccbill09/09-0273

