

FROM	NAME & TITLE	CHRIS RYER, DIRECTOR	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #19-0359/ OPEN-SPACE ZONING DISTRICTS – TREE CANOPY PRESERVATION		

DATE:

April 16, 2019

TO

The Honorable President and
 Members of the City Council
 City Hall, Room 400
 100 North Holliday Street

The Department of Planning is in receipt of City Council Bill #19-0359, which is for the purpose of requiring the approval of the Forestry Division of the Department of Recreation and Parks prior to any tree removal on certain properties within a Baltimore City Open-Space Zoning District; and providing for a special effective date.

The Department of Planning is in general support of the preservation of tree canopy throughout the City. In reviewing the specifics of this bill, we recommend the committee further consider a few topics listed below, in order to better implement this bill's intent:

- How the approval mechanism by the Forestry Division within the Department of Recreation and Parks will work. It may be necessary to add this review to the Zoning Code under Article 32 – *Zoning*, Title 3;
- The standards under which the impact to the City's Tree Canopy will be evaluated; and
- Notification to all property owners of Open Space (OS) zoned land so that they will be aware that this provision applies to them.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Tiso, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at 410-396-8358.

CR/ewt

cc: Mr. Pete Hammen, Chief Operating Officer
 Mr. Jim Smith, Chief of Strategic Alliances
 Ms. Karen Stokes, Mayor's Office
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Mayor's Office
 Mr. Jeff Amoros, Mayor's Office
 The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
 Mr. William H. Cole IV, BDC
 Mr. Derek Baumgardner, BMZA
 Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
 Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD
 Mr. Tyrell Dixon, DCHD
 Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
 Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC
 Mr. Liam Davis, DOT
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
 Mr. Ervin Bishop, Council Services