
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. “JACK” YOUNG
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
DANA P. MOORE, ACTING CITY SOLICITOR
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

October 22, 2020

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 20-553 – Urban Renewal – Washington Village –
Amendment

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0553 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would amend the Urban Renewal Plan for Washington Village to revise an exhibit to the Renewal Plan to reflect the addition of a new disposition lot and to clarify and correct certain references in the Plan.

Any changes in an Urban Renewal plan, such as these changes, must be made by ordinance. City Code, Art. 13, §2-6(g). Since this is not a technical amendment, but is instead one that affects the disposition of a property subject to the Plan, it requires the same notice as that required to adopt the original ordinance that created the plan. Thus, notice of the City Council hearing must be posted in the neighborhood of the area involved at least ten days prior to the hearing. City Code, Art. 13, §2-6(d)(3)(i). Additionally, notice of the City Council hearing must be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in Baltimore City. City Code, Art. 13, §2-6(d)(3)(ii).

Additionally, the Plan requires that the City Department of Housing and Community Development give this proposed amendment to the “Southwest Community Council, or the Commercial District Review Panel as appropriate, or their successors, for review and comment ... no later than the time that the proposed amendment [was] submitted to the Director of the Department of Planning.” Plan, ¶ E. The Council and/or Panel, as the case may be, are to provide the Department with the names and addresses of local organizations impacted by the proposal. The associations and the Department must contact business and property owners in the B-2-3 districts if the change affects their property. All comments must be submitted no later than 4 weeks after the proposed amendment was submitted to the Council and/or Panel and if they are not, the change is deemed acceptable. There must be a public hearing on the change. Plan, ¶ E. At least ten days before that hearing, the associations must be given written notice of the date and time of that hearing. Plan, ¶ E. “With respect to any land in the Project Area previously disposed of by the City for use in accordance with the renewal plan, the then owner of the land whose interests in

the renewal plan are materially affected by changes must receive at least ten days prior to the hearing, written notice of the time and place of the hearing and information as to where a copy of the proposed amendments may be inspected.” Plan, ¶ E.

Assuming these notice requirements are met, the Law Department can approve City Council Bill 20-0553 for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ashlea H. Brown', is positioned above the typed name.

Ashlea H. Brown
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Dana Moore, Acting City Solicitor
Matthew Stegman, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Caylin Young, Legislative Director
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor