



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Caron Watkins Interim Director, Office of Equity & Civil Rights Interim Chief Equity Officer
ANALYST	Zachary Wellman Equity Policy Analyst, Office of Equity & Civil Rights
DATE	August 29, 2024
SUBJECT	OECR Report on Baltimore City Council Bill 24-0560 Sale of Property - 1012 East 43 rd Street

OECR POSITION: Favorable

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

The Office of Equity & Civil Rights (OECR) has reviewed and is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0560 - *Sale of Property - 1012 East 43rd Street*. This is a property sale bill for the plot located at 1012 East 43rd Street (Block 5192, Lot 059).

The bill seeks to accomplish the following:

- Authorize the Mayor and City Council to sell, either at public or private sale, all its interest in the property.
- Provide an effective date for the sale (effective immediately upon passage).
- Require the City Solicitor to approve the transfer of the property deed.
- Allow the undeveloped property to be reused.

The bill enables the Mayor and City Council to divest their interests in the property by way of sale through the authority of the Comptroller, as outlined by Article V, Section 5(b) of the Baltimore City Charter.

ANALYSIS

Council Bill 24-0560 seeks to authorize the sale of the city property located at 1012 East 43rd Street, a plot of undeveloped land, with the intent it will be sold to KidzStuff Child Care Center. The OCR recognizes that KidzStuff Child Care Center submitted an Acquisition Interest Form to the Department of Real Estate for the property to expand their adjacent empty facility located at 1010 East 43rd Street and accompany their in-use childcare facility across the street at 1009 East 43rd Street.

KidzStuff Child Care Center has promised to establish an early learning center for children with disabilities on the acquired plot, which would include five classrooms and two therapeutic rooms for parents and children. In line with the intended use of the property, the new facility would include accessibility features such as accessible ramps, elevators, and off-street parking.

KidzStuff Child Care Center currently serves its community by providing childcare to families in Northeast Baltimore; however, its current facility is under-equipped to provide care to children with disabilities. The sale of the property at 1012 East 43rd Street is a necessary step to enable KidzStuff Child Care Center to provide equitable care for children with and without disabilities alike. Therefore, the intended outcome of Council Bill 24-0560 should have a positive impact on the equity of Baltimore City residents, particularly young residents living with disabilities, and their families.

CONCLUSION

After review, the Office of Equity & Civil Rights has discerned no inequity in the intent of the property sale and supports the intended use of the property to provide care for children with disabilities in Baltimore once sold. As such, the office requests a **favorable** committee report on City Council Bill 24-0560.

Respectfully Submitted,



Caron Watkins
Interim Director, Office of Equity & Civil Rights