SHEILA DIXON Mayor



THOMAS J. STOSUR

Acting Director

MEMO

February 19, 2009

TO: The Honorable President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake And Members of the Baltimore City Council City Hall, Room 400 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Md. 21202

FROM: Ms. Kathleen G. Kotarba, Executive Director

RE: CCB # 08-0042 - DISCLOSURES ON SALE OR LEASE

The Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) has received City Council Bill No. 08-0042 for review. This legislation is "for the purpose of requiring certain disclosures in the sale or lease of residential properties; defining certain items; increasing certain penalties; correcting, clarifying, and conforming to certain language; and generally relating to the sale or lease of residential property". This disclosure information would include whether a property lies within a locally designated historic district, and/or is on the Baltimore City Landmark List and/or on the Baltimore City Special List. Additional disclosure information would include zoning status, whether the property lies within an urban renewal area, in an overlay district or within a planned unit development, and/or is subject to any recorded covenants that may affect the use of the property.

The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) views CCB #08-0042 as being a beneficial consumer protection measure for residential property buyers and therefore **recommends approval** of City Council Bill #08-0042.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council

Mr. Tyler Gearhart, Chairman, CHAP

Mr. Tom J. Stosur, Director, Department of Planning

Mr. Gary Cole, Deputy Director, Department of Planning

Mr. Wolde Ararsa, Department of Planning

CHAP Commissioners



COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION