

CITY OF BALTIMORE MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director
DATE	5/13/2024
SUBJECT	City Council Bill 24-0518, South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District and Management Authority - Renewal Through June 30, 2028

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council City Hall, Room 400

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 24-0518, South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District and Management Authority - Renewal Through June 30, 2028, for the purpose of reviewing, renewing, and continuing the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District and the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the activities and authority of the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District and the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority.

Background

There are several Community Benefits Districts across the city: Waterfront, Midtown, Charles Village, and Downtown. These Community Benefits Districts, and the Management Authorities that preside over them, provide additional services to their residents such as street cleaning, alley maintenance, and safety patrols. These services are funded by a property tax surcharge paid by property owners in the District.

The South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District (the District) and Management Authority (d.b.a. South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP)), was created in August 2016 with the enactment of Ordinance 16-509, South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District – Establishment, to help implement the South Baltimore Gateway Master Plan. The District is made up of neighborhoods that are most affected by the presence of the nearby Horseshoe Casino. The Authority's role is to promote and market the District, provide supplemental security and maintenance services, provide amenities in public areas, provide park and recreational programs and functions, and other services and functions as requested by the Authority and approved through an ordinance by the Mayor and City Council.

The SBGP is funded by Casino Local Impact Grants. During the 2018 General Assembly session, SB0480 - Baltimore City - South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority - Distribution of Local Impact Grants, was introduced and subsequently signed into law by the Governor on May 2018, designating that the SBGP split Baltimore's share of Casino Local Impact Grants with the City 50/50. For Fiscal Year 2025, the allocation to SBGP is \$8.5 million.

The SBGP requires a review and renewal every four years since its creation in 2016. The SBGP authority was reviewed and renewed in February 2022 with the passage of 22-127, which was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. City Council Bill 24-0518 if passed will provide SBGP with the authority to operate through June 30, 2028.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance does not anticipate a fiscal impact as a result of this legislation.

Conclusion

The Department of Finance does not oppose the passage of City Council Bill 24-0518 - South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District and Management Authority.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 24-0518.

cc: Michael Mocksten Nina Themelis