

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



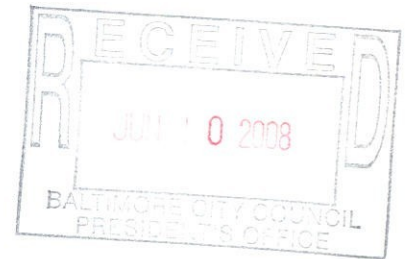
DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor  
101 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

June 10, 2008

The Honorable President and  
Members of the Baltimore  
City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary  
409 City Hall  
Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: City Council Bill 08-0108 – Charter Amendment-  
Department of General Services



Dear President and Members

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 08-0108. City Council Bill 108 proposes an amendment to the Baltimore City Charter that would create a Department of General Services as an Executive Department of City government. The bill provides for the powers and duties of the Department of General Services which are largely powers that are largely being transferred from the Department of Public Works.

City Council Bill 08-0108 is consistent with the powers of the City Council to propose Charter amendments provided under the Maryland Constitution Article XI-A, Section 5. If the bill is passed by the City Council, it will be referred to the voters in the next general election.

The Law Department proposes several amendments to the bill to make it consistent with current City operations and to allow for modification to the powers of the Department of General Services as it evolves as an executive department.

1. On page 9, at the end of line 6, after “However,” insert “unless otherwise provided in this Charter or by other law;”.
2. On page 9, line 19, before “No”, insert “Unless otherwise provided in this Charter or by other law.”
3. On pages 14 through 15, delete Section 134 through 137 and insert them with appropriate section numbers, on page 9, after line 29. Change all references to the “Department of General Services” to the “Department of Transportation.”
4. Re-number Section 138 to be Section 134.

F/A



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Subject to the suggested amendments, the Law Department approves the City Council Bill 08-0108 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,



Elena R. DiPietro *ecm*  
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Honorable Stephanie Rawlings Blake  
Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison  
George A. Nilson, City Solicitor  
Linda C. Barclay, Chief Solicitor  
Deepa Bhattacharyya, Assistant Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor  
Tom Stosur, Assistant Deputy Mayor