

Baltimore City Council



Land Use & Transportation

Committee

Bill: 25-0040

**Title: Zoning – Uses – Retail: Small Box
Establishment**

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Leva, Anthony F (City Council)

From: Middleton, Sharon (City Council)
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 7:51 AM
To: Cole, Brittany (City Council); Carla Wilson; Parker, Mark (City Council); Conway, Mark (City Council); Gray, Paris (City Council); Porter, Phylicia R.L. (City Council); Blanchard, Zachary (City Council); Ramos, Odette (City Council); rdorsey; Torrence, James (City Council); Bullock, John (City Council); antonio.glover@baltimorecity.go
Cc: Miller, Tywanda (City Council); Barnes, Jasmine (City Council); Ham, Sheena (City Council); District 7 Staff; Leva, Anthony F (City Council)
Subject: Re: FPNA's Support of CCB 25-0040

Good morning Toni:

Please add this testimony to the bill file.

Sincerely,
Sharon Middleton

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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From: Cole, Brittany (City Council) <brittany.cole@baltimorecity.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 12:30:34 PM
To: Carla Wilson <legisCOORDFORESTPKASSN@gmail.com>; Middleton, Sharon (City Council) <Sharon.Middleton@baltimorecity.gov>; Parker, Mark (City Council) <mark.parker@baltimorecity.gov>; Conway, Mark (City Council) <Mark.Conway@baltimorecity.gov>; Gray, Paris (City Council) <Paris.Gray@baltimorecity.gov>; Porter, Phylicia R.L. (City Council) <Phylicia.Porter@baltimorecity.gov>; Blanchard, Zachary (City Council) <zachary.blanchard@baltimorecity.gov>; Ramos, Odette (City Council) <Odette.Ramos@baltimorecity.gov>; rdorsey <Ryan.Dorsey@baltimorecity.gov>; Torrence, James (City Council) <James.Torrence@baltimorecity.gov>; Bullock, John (City Council) <John.Bullock@baltimorecity.gov>; antonio.glover@baltimorecity.go <antonio.glover@baltimorecity.go>
Cc: Miller, Tywanda (City Council) <Tywanda.Miller@BaltimoreCity.gov>; Barnes, Jasmine (City Council) <Jasmine.Barnes@baltimorecity.gov>; Ham, Sheena (City Council) <Sheena.Ham@baltimorecity.gov>; District 7 Staff <District7Staff@baltimorecity.gov>
Subject: Re: FPNA's Support of CCB 25-0040

Good afternoon, Ms. Wilson,

I hope all is well. Confirming receipt of your correspondence on behalf of the district 7. Thank you for providing your position on CCB 25-0040. Wishing you all a great rest of the day!

In Service,
Brittany Cole

From: Carla Wilson <legisCOORDFORESTPKASSN@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Middleton, Sharon (City Council) <Sharon.Middleton@baltimorecity.gov>; Parker, Mark (City Council) <mark.parker@baltimorecity.gov>; Conway, Mark (City Council) <Mark.Conway@baltimorecity.gov>; Gray,

Paris (City Council) <Paris.Gray@baltimorecity.gov>; Porter, Phylicia R.L. (City Council) <Phylicia.Porter@baltimorecity.gov>; Blanchard, Zachary (City Council) <zachary.blanchard@baltimorecity.gov>; Ramos, Odette (City Council) <Odette.Ramos@baltimorecity.gov>; rdorsey <Ryan.Dorsey@baltimorecity.gov>; Torrence, James (City Council) <James.Torrence@baltimorecity.gov>; Bullock, John (City Council) <John.Bullock@baltimorecity.gov>; antonio.glover@baltimorecity.go <antonio.glover@baltimorecity.go>
Cc: Miller, Tywanda (City Council) <Tywanda.Miller@BaltimoreCity.gov>; Barnes, Jasmine (City Council) <Jasmine.Barnes@baltimorecity.gov>; Ham, Sheena (City Council) <Sheena.Ham@baltimorecity.gov>; District 7 Staff <District7Staff@baltimorecity.gov>
Subject: FPNA's Support of CCB 25-0040

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Hello,

Please review Forest Park Neighborhood Association's letter in support of City Council Bill 25-0040. Thank you.

--

Carla Wilson
Legislative Chair
Forest Park Neighborhood Association
Email: legisCOORDforestpkassn@gmail.com
Cell: 410-499-4753

Leva, Anthony F (City Council)

From: Chris Plano <chris.e.plano@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2025 5:19 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: 25-0040 Zoning - Uses - Retail: Small Box Establishment

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I fully support this bill. It will promote local businesses over poorly managed chains that detract from our communities.

Thank you,
Chris Plano
4202 Elserode Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21214

Testimony to the Baltimore City Council Land Use and Transportation Committee
from Christine M. Layton

in support of Dollar Store Bill 25-0040

Public hearing date September 18, 2025

Good morning, Chairman Dorsey and members of Baltimore City Council's Land Use and Transportation Committee. I am Christine Layton, a Baltimore City Resident homeowner who has lived in the Oakenshaw neighborhood since 1994 during which time I raised two children, and served on the Board of our neighborhood association, the Oakenshaw Improvement Association.

I am here today to tell you all why I think the Dollar Store Bill 25-0040 would be beneficial for Baltimore and it's neighborhoods like Oakenshaw.

One of the appealing features of Oakenshaw is its convenient proximity to institutions like Johns Hopkins University and Union Memorial Hospital, services like the Waverly Branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library and Saturday Farmer's Market, and businesses like the Waverly Ace Hardware Store and Red Emma's.

Oakenshaw shares a boarder with Greenmount Ave. It takes me less than 10 minutes to walk from my home to where a Dollar Store on Greenmount Ave. is out of business. I was concerned when a Dollar Store took the place of a long-standing chain pharmacy at the corner of Greenmount and 32nd St. I worried that the appeal of low-price every-day items would be outweighed by its adverse impact on other businesses, and increases in trash, and sales of low-quality, highly processed foods. I did not anticipate -- and was horrified -- when the Dollar Store became the site of multiple violent crimes, most recently a shooting this past July.

Bill 25-0040 would require an explicit definition of "Small Box Stores", like Dollar Store, and make such stores establishment conditional use. By requiring Zone C applicants to consult with local community members to identify and establish means to mitigate concerns like crime/violence, trash, etc., this legislation would help assure retailers are serving the communities where they do business.

As Baltimore continues its efforts to thrive and prosper, we need to assure we have structures in place to prevent businesses from taking advantage of our struggles. I think Bill 25-0040 would be helpful in these efforts.

Thank you for your time and attention to this issue.