



**BILL SYNOPSIS**

**Committee: Economic and Community Development**

**Bill: 22-0200**

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**Urban Renewal - Central Business District - Amendment 2**

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**Sponsor:** Councilmember Costello

**Introduced:** February 22, 2022

**Purpose:**

For the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for the Central Business District to revise the signage provisions; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

**Effective:** The date of enactment.

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**Agency Reports**

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|--|--------------------|
| City Solicitor   | Favorable          |
| Planning Commission                                      | Favorable          |
| Department of Public Works                               | Favorable          |
| Department of Transportation                             | No Objection       |
| Department of Housing and Community Development          | Does Not Object    |
| Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation | Favorable          |
| Baltimore Development Corporation                        | Favorable          |
| Board of Municipal Zoning Appeals                        | Defers to Planning |



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## Analysis

### Current Law

Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal; Section 2-6; Baltimore City Code; (Edition 2000)

### Background

Urban Renewal Plans (URP), which are adopted by the Mayor and City Council, set forth redevelopment goals, design guidelines, land use restrictions, as well as authority for property acquisition and disposition. URPs are often used by urban centers to generate financing for community improvements and the creation of jobs and income.

The Maryland Annotated Code requires all Urban Renewal Plans (URPs) that have designated properties for acquisition and disposition that have not yet been acted upon to be expressly confirmed and reauthorized every four years, for the life of the URP. The Central Business District Urban Renewal Plan was established in 2001 via Ordinance 01-170. Any changes to the URP must be approved by the Mayor and City Council.

Amendment No. 1 (Bill 06-0465) was approved in 2006 via Ordinance No. 06-0348. Amendment No. 1 authorized the acquisition by purchase or by condemnation of certain properties for urban renewal purposes, created new disposition lots, revised exhibits to reflect the changes in the Plan, and made minor technical corrections.

Bill 22-0200 proposes Amendment No. 2 to revise the current URP to:

- revise the signage provisions;
- waive certain content and procedural requirements;
- make the provisions of the approved ordinance severable;
- provide for the application of the approved ordinance, as well as
- provide for a special effective date.

Bill 22-0200 removes language pertaining to sign approval that conflicts with the current Zoning Code. If Bill 22-0200 is approved, all signage will be approved according to criteria established in the URP or as approved by the Planning Commission's signage approval process as outlined in the Zoning Code of Baltimore.

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## Additional Information

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**Fiscal Note:** Not Available

**Information Source(s):** Reporting Agencies, Bill 22-0200

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