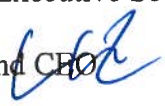


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO 

DATE: February 8, 2016

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 16-0619
Minority and Women's Business Enterprises – Small Local Business Enterprise
Procurement Preferences

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on Council Bill 16-0619 - Minority and Women's Business Enterprises – Small Local Business Enterprise Procurement Preferences

The BDC supports the utilization of affirmative procurement initiatives, which enable local small businesses to be more competitive in obtaining local government contracts. Increasing the number of government contracts awarded to small businesses will help them grow and create new jobs.

It is estimated that small businesses will generate 90 percent of new jobs in the Baltimore area. Small businesses also offer the greatest opportunity for inclusion as they tend to hire more locally. Helping small businesses to expand, tend to create more jobs at a faster rate, which will decrease unemployment and lead to greater economic growth in Baltimore.

BDC requests the City Council to give favorable consideration to this legislation.

cc: Colin Tarbert
Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill16/16-0619

