CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0096
(First Reader)

Introduced by: Councilmember Cole, President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Young, Branch, D'Adamo, Middleton, Conaway, Reisinger, Henry, Kraft, Welch, Holton, Curran

Introduced and read first time: April 7, 2008

Assigned to: Community Development Subcommittee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Recreation and Parks

A BILL ENTITLED

1   AN ORDINANCE concerning

2   **Public Parks, Squares, etc. – Closure Requirements**

3   FOR the purpose of requiring City Council approval before a public park, square, or recreational
4   facility may be closed for longer than a certain period; providing for certain exceptions; and
5   generally relating to the public's right of access to public parks, squares, and recreational
6   facilities.

7   BY adding
8   Article 7 - Natural Resources
9   Section(s) 51-5
10 Baltimore City Code
11 (Edition 2000)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the
13 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

14 **Baltimore City Code**

15 **Article 7. Natural Resources**

16 *Division V. City Parks and Trees*

17 **Subtitle 51. Department Jurisdiction**

18 § 51-5. PARKS, SQUARES, ETC., TO REMAIN OPEN.

19 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

20 NO PARK, SQUARE, OR RECREATIONAL FACILITY OPERATED BY OR UNDER THE AUSPICES
21 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS MAY BE CLOSED, IN WHOLE OR ANY
22 SUBSTANTIAL PART, FOR MORE THAN 72 CONSECUTIVE HOURS WITHOUT THE EXPRESS
23 PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1   (B) *EMERGENCIES EXCEPTED*.

2   THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE EXTENT THAT A CLOSURE IS NECESSITATED BY AN
3   EMERGENCY THAT ENDANGERS THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY.

4   **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
5 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
6 Ordinance.

7   **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
8 after the date it is enacted.