

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
Mayor



THOMAS J. STOSUR  
Director

MEMO

September 15, 2011

TO: The Honorable President Bernard Jack Young  
and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

FROM: Ms. Kathleen G. Kotarba, Executive Director

RE: Bill No. 10-0486 -Fells Point Historic District FOR the purpose of modifying the area designated as the Fells Point Historic District to exclude Block 1830, Lots 30, 31, and 32/33, and Block 1832, Lots 1/4, 5/12, and 13 through 24; and restating the boundaries of the District.

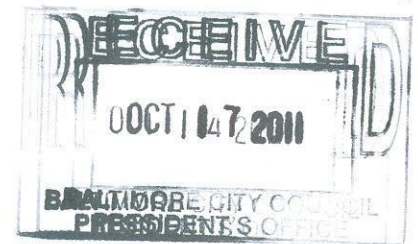
This legislation would modify the boundaries of the Fells Point Historic District by removing currently designated structures from within its boundaries. The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) does not support this legislation and issues an **UNFAVORABLE** recommendation.

CHAP reviewed this legislation at its August 9, 2011 Public Hearing and put forward an unfavorable recommendation, given the legislation's precedent for removing properties from current historic districts. Additionally, they determined that CHAP's Guidelines for New Construction are appropriate to maintain the character of the Fells Point Historic District.

The removal of these properties from the district would create an unusual cutout in the district that includes contributing and non-contributing resources. The removal from the district would create a precedent that would lead to other property owners of both historic and non-contributing properties to request removal from CHAP because they do not want to follow the CHAP guidelines, including the community consultation review. The Commission concurs with the Baltimore Development Corporation's assessment that this bill would undermine the effectiveness of the districts and purposes for which they were established.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council



COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

Charles L. Benton, Jr. Building 417 East Fayette Street Eighth Floor Baltimore, MD 21202-3416

Plan Preserve Prosper

*Angela*