

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable President and Members of the City Council

Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM:

M. J. Brodie, President

DATE:

February 9, 2011

SUBJECT:

City Council Bill No. 11-0645

Urban Renewal – Johnston Square – Amendment

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has reviewed City Council Bill 11-0645 for the purpose of amending the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square to reauthorize the acquisition of properties within the Project Area and to correct and clarify certain language; 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.

An amendment to the Urban Renewal Plan for Johnston Square is necessary to reauthorize the Plan's powers of acquisition and condemnation so that these actions may legally continue, in compliance with § 12-105.1 of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Without this reauthorization, the authority to acquire properties under the Plan will terminate on July 1, 2011. In addition to obtaining the reauthorization of general acquisition authority of the properties already located within the existing land disposition map, the proposed legislation would also further clarify the City's ability to acquire adjacent streets or alleys that connect or are adjacent to these properties including all rights, title and interest or any private rights of use.

BDC is supportive of Bill No. 11-0645 and respectfully request that favorable consideration is given by the City Council.

cc:

Kaliope Parthemos Angela Gibson

sandra.gladden/ccbill09/11-0645