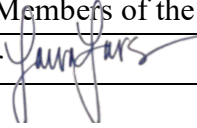




CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 
DATE	September 3 rd , 2025
SUBJECT	25-0084 City Streets – Closing – Portions of West Saratoga Street and an Adjacent Alley

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 25-0084, City Streets – Closing – Portions of West Saratoga Street and an Adjacent Alley. This bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to condemn and close two parcels of public right-of-way: a 6-foot-wide portion of West Saratoga Street and a 10.67-foot-wide alley. The affected area is bounded by Pearl Street, West Saratoga Street, and North Greene Street. The bill preserves the City's rights to existing subsurface infrastructure and places responsibility for relocation or removal on the requesting party.

Background

Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Administration, this ordinance facilitates the formal closure of two defined parcels of right-of-way. Parcel 1 measures approximately 360 square feet and Parcel 2 approximately 656 square feet, as detailed on Plat No. 307-A-23A, prepared by the Survey Control Section and filed with the Department of Transportation on October 5, 2024. The ordinance retains the City's ownership and access rights to subsurface infrastructure within the closed areas and prohibits any new construction until City infrastructure is abandoned or relocated at the expense of the developer. The proceedings are governed by the City Charter and applicable laws and regulations adopted by the Director of Transportation.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance anticipates no fiscal impact as a result of this legislation. All costs related to the removal or relocation of infrastructure, including those owned by private parties, will be borne by the requesting entity. The City's access rights are preserved without creating additional costs or liabilities.

Conclusion

Council Bill 25-0084 authorizes the closure of two small segments of public right-of-way in accordance with standard City processes. The ordinance includes clear protections for City infrastructure and places financial responsibility for any necessary changes on the appropriate parties.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 25-0084.

cc: Michael Mocksten

Nina Themelis