


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: October 17, 2008

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 08-0204
Zoning – Liquor Stores: Package Goods

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill 08-0204, titled Zoning – Liquor Stores: Package Goods, which would define this category of establishment, reclassify it as a Conditional Use requiring approval by ordinance, and generally address the zoning for Liquor Stores: Package Goods.

BDC expresses its general support for Bill 08-0204, as it affords communities the opportunity to express support for or opposition to establishment of a liquor store selling package goods within its area. Currently, such package goods establishments are a permitted use within B-2, B-3, B-4 and B-5 zoning districts. While an additional level of approval would be required for establishing a legitimate package goods business, it should not be expected that this would result in denial of any and all Conditional Use applications for package goods establishments. The benefits of allowing community input regarding this use, important in supporting community stability and quality of life, would outweigh any inconvenience of the additional Conditional Use process.

It is respectfully recommended, however, that Bill 08-0204 contain recitals describing the intent of the Bill and clarify the effects and impacts on existing liquor stores: package goods establishments (i.e. “grand fathering” provisions) as well as proposed expansion of same.

cc: Andrew Frank
Angela Gibson

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