


FROM	NAME & TITLE	William M. Johnson, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE  M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 East Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 15-0467		

TO

The Honorable President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin  
Room 400 City Hall

September 17, 2015

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 15-0467, "Departments of Public Works, Transportation, and General Services – Conforming Code References to Charter Allocations" for the purpose of correcting agency references rendered obsolete by Charter amendments that have reallocated various powers duties among these agencies; repealing certain obsolete or obsolescent provisions related to these and other units of City government; correcting, clarifying, and conforming the language of related provisions; and generally relating to the administrations and regulations of public works, surveys, public and private streets, highways, rights-of-ways, transit and traffic, and general services.

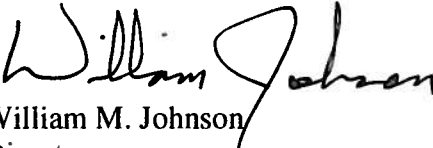
The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports this bill with the amendments submitted by the Department of Public Works (DPW). Through Resolution 04-056 (ratified November 2, 2004), the DOT was elevated to an independent cabinet level agency, from a bureau within the DPW. The responsibilities included in Article 31 (Traffic and Transit) and portions of Article 26 (Survey, Streets, and Highways) of the Baltimore City Code were transferred from DPW to the DOT when the independent department was created. Additionally, Resolution 14-016 transferred certain duties related to property locations and rights-of-way from the Department of General Services (DGS) to the DOT, which took place July 1, 2015. DGS was similarly made a cabinet-level agency in 2008 through Resolution 08-003.

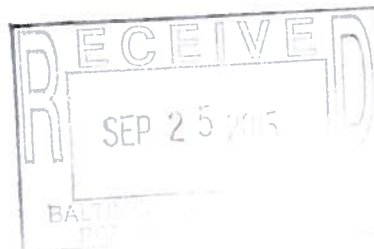
City Council Bill 15-0467 was introduced to update the Code to reflect the current structure of the DOT, the DPW, and the DGS. When reviewing the legislation the need for updating other provisions of the Code was realized, leading to the subject amendments. The proposed amendments to Bill 15-0467 were prepared as one compilation that includes all recommendations received to date. Additionally, the recommended amendments were reviewed by the Law Department and Legislative Reference. Notably, amendment 2 allows the DOT to comment on off-street parking space approvals; amendment 3 clarifies that the DOT issues permits for work on trees in the right-of-way, in consultation with Recreation and Parks; amendment 4 removes obsolete references to the Harbor Engineer; and amendment 6 removes obsolete references pertaining to lighting lamps.

The Baltimore City Code is subject to change as new laws are enacted and existing law is modified. Bill 15-0467 will removed obsolete provisions from the Code and will provide the correct references concerning agency-assigned functions and responsibilities. The Department of Transportation supports passage of this legislation as proposed to be amended.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

  
William M. Johnson  
Director



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WMJ/PAF