



November 3, 2016

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 16-0698 – Baltimore City Landmark List: Exteriors –
George W. King/Abraham Briscoe House

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 16-0698 for form and legal sufficiency. It would designate the George W. King/Abraham Briscoe House, 1232 Druid Hill Avenue, as an historical landmark.

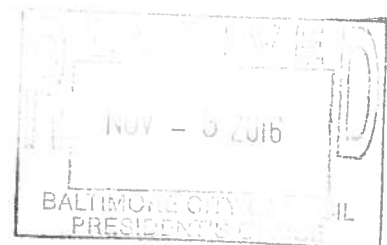
An ordinance of the Mayor and City Council is required to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors.” BCC, Art. 6, §4-2(1). The City Council must refer the bill for written reports and recommendations to the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP), the Planning Commission, and any other agency that the Council President designates. BCC Art. 6, §4-5(a). Section 4-6 of Article 6 sets forth the public notice and hearing requirements. Receipt of the CHAP report is a prerequisite to the holding of a hearing on a bill seeking to add a structure to the “Landmark List: Exteriors” when the bill was not initiated by CHAP, as is the case here. BCC, Art. 6, §4-8(b). However, if CHAP does not submit a report within 100 days of the referral, the Council may proceed to set a hearing on the bill without a CHAP report. BCC, Art. 6, §4-8(c).

CHAP has reviewed this bill and has submitted a report approving the landmark designation. The Planning Commission has also provided a favorable report. Assuming the notice and hearing requirements are satisfied, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency. Finally, the Law Department notes that the Planning Commission and CHAP have proposed an amendment to change the name designation to the “George W. King/Abraham Briscoe/Bethel Community House.” The adoption of this amendment by the committee would not affect the legal sufficiency of the bill.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Landis
Assistant Solicitor

Fav w/ comments



cc: David Ralph, Acting City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor