



FROM	Name & Title	 Walter J. Horton, Real Estate Officer	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Department of Real Estate Room 304 City Hall Baltimore, MD 21202		
	Subject	City Council Bill 16-0651 Property Tax Exemption – Community-Managed Open Space		

Date: May 20, 2016

To: Honorable President and
 Members Of the City Council
 c/o Natawana B. Austin
 Office of the President
 City Hall – Room 409

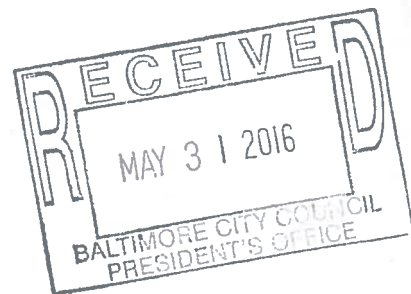
As requested, the Department of Real Estate has reviewed the subject bill which, if approved, will exempt certain properties containing community-managed open space from the City’s real property tax, define certain terms, set the requirements for properties to qualify for the real property tax exemption and provide for a special effective date.

State Tax Property Article 7-519 (b) states The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may exempt property owned by a community open space management entity from the county or municipal property tax. The subject bill defines the state of land (natural, cultivated), outlines the acreage requirements for the states of land and presents reporting requirements and deed restrictions to be met prior to gaining exemption from the City’s real property tax.

Community Open Space Management Entities provide a valuable service to the City by preserving Community Managed Open Spaces in perpetuity.

The Department of Real Estate supports the passage of this legislation.

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