


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Corren Johnson, Interim Director	CITY of BALTIMORE	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (BCDOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	Mayor & Council Resolution 23-0390	M E M O	

TO: Mayor Brandon M. Scott
TO: Economic & Community Development Committee
FROM: Department of Transportation
POSITION: **Support**
RE: Mayor & City Council Resolution – 23-0390

DATE: 6/3/23

INTRODUCTION – Transit-Oriented Development - Penn Station

PURPOSE/PLANS – For the purpose of supporting a State Transit-Oriented Development designation for Penn Station, the area surrounding and including Baltimore Penn Station; and providing for a special effective date.

COMMENTS – Mayor & City Council Resolution 23-0390 seeks to formally clarify support of State Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) designation for properties surrounding Baltimore’s Penn Station. Existing State law requires local governments to formally announce support for State TOD designation, in the form of a resolution from a locality’s legislative body. State TOD designation of Baltimore Penn Station was identified as a priority request in Baltimore City’s 2023 Priority Letter to Maryland Department of Transportation.

Located at 1500 North Charles Street, Baltimore Penn Station serves as a critical transportation hub for the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. The station is centrally located within Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor, the busiest passenger rail line in the United States, by both ridership and train service. Baltimore Penn Station specifically is the 7th busiest passenger rail station within Amtrak’s portfolio. Formal State TOD designation of Baltimore Penn Station would help Baltimore City fully leverage the ongoing renovation and expansion of the historic facility.

As defined by the Transportation Article, State TOD designation would provide the area with “dense, mixed-use deliberately-planned development within a half-mile of transit stations that is designed to increase transit ridership”. If implemented, State TOD designation will help maximize economic development potential of Baltimore Penn Station and abutting neighborhoods in unison with the BCDOT’s Complete Streets efforts. The process for formal State TOD designation is slated to change July 1, 2023, due to the adoption of House Bill 12 during the 2023 Legislative Session.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – Formal State TOD designation is in alignment with efforts to create a more sustainable, walkable Baltimore City. As such, Baltimore City Department of Transportation fully **supports** the adoption of Mayor & City Council Resolution 23-0390.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam Davis at Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov or at 410-545-3207.

Sincerely,

Corren Johnson
Interim Director