

FROM

NAME & TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director
AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
SUBJECT	City-Council Bill 19-0439

CITY of
BALTIMORE

MEMO



DATE: November 6, 2019

TO

TO Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

INTRODUCTION

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 19-0439 introduced by Council President Scott on behalf of the Administration (Department of Transportation).

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Bill is to grant a franchise to the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) to construct, use and maintain three (3) private underground pipelines in the bed of the 1000 block of McCulloh Street, between Hoffman and West Preston Streets, subject to certain terms, conditions, and reservations; and to provide a special effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY

Article VIII of the Baltimore City Charter allows for the granting of specific franchises or rights for non-public purposes in or relating to public property, including rights-of-way, subject to certain limitations and conditions and for specified, limited periods. These franchise rights are embodied in an ordinance and an annual franchise fee, established by the Board of Estimates in accordance with their Minor Privilege Schedule of Charges, is amended into the ordinance prior to its passage. City Council Bill 19-0439, if approved, will grant HABC the right to install three (3) private pipelines beneath the 1000 block of McCulloh Street, between West Preston and West Hoffman Streets. These private pipelines will enable HABC to interconnect boilers within buildings located on the northeast and southwest sides of McCulloh Street.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department of Public Works maintains a 6-inch water main and an 8-inch sanitary sewer within McCulloh Street right-of-way. The proposed alignment for the HABC private pipes has been reviewed by this Department through the developer's agreement process. As designed, these private pipes will not impinge upon the existing underground utilities. Section 6 of the legislation preserves the City's ability to exercise full municipal superintendence over this franchised infrastructure, and Section 7 holds HABC responsible for all costs and expenses for their infrastructure. As such, this Department does not anticipate incurring any fiscal impacts resulting from this proposed franchise ordinance.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION

The Department of Public Works has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 19-0439. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Marcia Collins at 410-396-1960 (Marcia.Collins@baltimorecity.gov).

Sincerely,

Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director

RSC:MMC