

FROM	NAME & TITLE	William M. Johnson, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 East Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 14-0158R		

TO

The Honorable President and Members
of the City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 City Hall

June 19, 2014

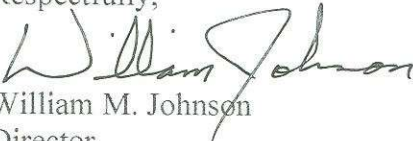
I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 14-0158R, "Establishing a Uniform List of Towable Parking Violations in Private Parking Lots," which requests that representatives from the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Board of Licenses for Towing Services (the "Trespass Tow Board") come before the Council to present guidelines for the practice of Trespass Towing and to begin discussions about what parking violations on private property towing is an appropriate remedy for.

DOT supports this resolution.

DOT staffs the Trespass Tow Board, which is a licensing board with members appointed by the Mayor that is charged with overseeing all tows from private property containing three or more parking spaces. Before a tow company can enter into a contract to perform towing services for a private property owner, that tow company must receive a Trespass Tow License from the Trespass Tow Board. The Board reviews applications for trespass tow licenses, ensures compliance with all trespass tow rules and regulations, and hears complaints from citizens who allege that their vehicle was towed wrongfully from private property. The Board is chaired by DOT's Towing Division Chief and is comprised of representatives from the towing industry, property management industry, general public, City Council, and Departments of Law, Finance, and Police.

Representatives from DOT and the Trespass Tow Board look forward to joining the Council to discuss codification of a list of violations which may enable a tow under a Trespass Tow License. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,


William M. Johnson
Director

WMJ/BZ

