



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Christopher R. Lundy, Director MOSMBAD
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	June 9, 2026
SUBJECT	Charter Amendment — Parking Benefits District — Local Fund

Position: Without Recommendation

BILL SYNOPSIS

This Charter Amendment seeks to establish a non-lapsing fund for purposes of promoting economically vibrant Main Street communities by returning a portion of parking revenues to the area that immediately surrounds the point of revenue collection.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Baltimore Main Streets (BMS) program is a public private partnership with nine communities, including: Highlandtown, Pennsylvania Avenue, Belair-Edison, Hamilton - Lauraville, Park Heights, Fells Point, Pigtown, Federal Hill, & Waverly. Each of the community organizations is an independently operated non-profit organization. The BMS program follows the Main Street America (MSA) approach centered around transformation strategies organized as four points: Economic Vitality, Design, Promotion, and Organization. BMS is a coordinating program accredited by MSA to grant accreditation to local coordinating programs. Maryland DHCD is similarly an accredited coordinating program. BMS funds the local coordinating programs on an annual basis if they remain eligible to receive funds by maintaining compliance with both MSA requirements and the BMS annual funding agreement, inclusive of quarterly reporting requirements. The BMS Program is a multi-module approach that depends upon the support of our partner directors and managers in the community. We cannot have a successful program without the partnership, hard work, and support of these community leaders.

Our work is impacted by a host of factors, including the need for additional community funding. SMBA&D remains optimistic that the FY27 budget will have increased funding and will continue to advocate for strategic community investment through the BMS program. BMS has successfully deployed funds previously via grants funded through the Pimlico Community Development Authority (PCDA) in Park Heights for business development, façade improvement, and lighting and safety enhancements. Additionally, SMBA&D has deployed funds through the

MBDA Advanced Manufacturing Center's Cares Act Small Business Strategic Consulting Fund Program and our Catalyst Baltimore program supporting businesses with various consultants to provide technical assistance. SMBA&D appreciates the sponsors' efforts to identify mechanisms to increase the funding of BMS and support the revitalization of our local Main Street communities. The bill recognizes our partnership and the unique relationship with these communities in working toward neighborhood revitalization. Nonetheless, despite the very good intention, the bill has the potential to cause inequity amongst the Main Street communities regarding the rate and presence of parking meters.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no anticipated fiscal impact on MOSMBAD.