

FROM	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #14-0427- FRANCHISE- PRIVATE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGEWAY ABOVE AND ACROSS AND SUPPORTING STRUCTURES IN AND BELOW THE 4100 BLOCK OF HILLEN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street

DATE: October 17, 2014

At its regular meeting of October 16, 2014, the Planning Commission considered City Council Bill #14-0427, for the purpose of granting a franchise to Morgan State University to construct, use, and maintain (1) a private pedestrian bridge above and across the 4100 block of Hillen Road right-of-way and (2) the bridge foundation and supporting columns in and below the Hillen Road right-of-way, subject to certain terms, conditions, and reservations; and providing for a special effective date.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report, which recommended approval of City Council Bill #14-0427, subject to Department of Transportation bridge inspection procedures and agreements and adopted the following resolution; eight members being present (eight in favor).

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #14-0427 be passed, subject to Department of Transportation bridge inspection procedures and agreements by the City Council.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Wolde Ararsa, Division Chief, Land Use and Urban Design Division at 410-396-4488.

TJS/WA

Attachment

- cc: Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, Chief of Staff
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Deputy Mayor for Economic and Neighborhood Development
 Mr. Leon Pinkett, Assistant Deputy Mayor for Economic and Neighborhood Development
 Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office
 The Honorable Rochelle "Rikki" Spector, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
 Mr. David Tanner, BMZA
 Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
 Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD
 Ms. Barbara Zektick, DOT
 Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
 Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services
 Mr. Henry Raymond, Finance Dept.
 Mr. Pete Little, PABC
 Ms. Melissa Krafchik, PABC
 Ms. Kim McCalla, Morgan State University



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Wilbur E. "Bill" Cunningham, Chairman

STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

October 16, 2014

REQUEST: City Council Bill #14-0427 - Franchise – Private Pedestrian Bridgeway Above and Across and Supporting Structures in and Below the 4100 Block of Hillen Road Right-Of-Way

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval, subject to Department of Transportation bridge inspection procedures and agreements.

STAFF: Anthony Cataldo

PETITIONER(S): The Administration (Department of General Services)

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site /General Area:

The Morgan State University is located in northeast Baltimore, generally along Hillen Road between East Cold Spring Lane to the north and Argonne Drive to the south. Although the main spaces and functions of the University are on the east side of Hillen Road, the campus has seen residential as well as academic program growth to the west of Hillen Road. Most notably with the current construction of the Business School at Hillen Road and Havenwood Road.

ANALYSIS

The Morgan State University has consistently struggled with students crossing Hillen Road safely to access housing, academic programs, and general shopping opportunities. With an increase in student enrollment and the formal expansion of the campus west, across Hillen Road, with the construction of the new Business School quad, the safe crossing of students from either side of Hillen road has become a priority of the University.

This City Council Bill will grant a franchise to Morgan State University to construct, use, and maintain a private pedestrian bridgeway above and across the 4100 block of Hillen Road right-of-way and the bridgeway foundation and supporting columns in and below the Hillen Road right-of-way. As part of the review process leading to the design of the bridge, Morgan State worked with the Department of Transportation on required clearances along Hillen Road and below the bridge. The bridge is proposed to be approximately 666 feet in total length stretching from the internal pedestrian portion of the campus, crossing Hillen Road, and terminating with a connection to the Business School (currently under construction). The

bridgeway is proposed to be 12 feet wide (inside to inside dimension) and constructed of steel which will be clad in aluminum panels with a glass handrail as it crosses the road.

As part of this action, staff recommends that Morgan State University reach an agreement with the Department of Transportation outlining the bridge inspection procedure.

Notifications:

In advance of this meeting, the following community organizations have been notified of this hearing: Ednor Gardens-Lakeside Civic Association, Harbel Community Organization, Inc., and Hillen Road Improvement Association.



Thomas J. Stosur
Director