



# MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,  
Executive Director, HABC,  
Commissioner, HCD

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: March 1, 2013

Re: **City Council Bill 13-0189 – Historical and Architectural Preservation Districts – Designation Process**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has initially reviewed City Council Bill 13-0189, which was introduced for the purpose of clarifying the process by which an Historical and Architectural District is proposed and designated; and generally relating to historical and architectural preservation.

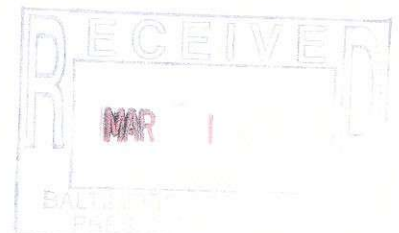
On February 4, 2013, HCD submitted an initial report requesting additional time for review; this communication is HCD's second submission on the above-captioned bill.

This bill, if adopted, would amend Article 6, Subsection 3 of the Baltimore City Code, which is the "Process for Designating Districts and Properties" Subtitle of the "Historical and Architectural Preservation" Article. Existing law vests in the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) the authority to "determine" boundaries of districts and "designate" an area "after its boundary lines have been determined." After so doing, CHAP then is required to prepare an ordinance to set forth its determinations and designations in law and cause the introduction of the ordinance before the City Council. This legislation would change the law to vest in CHAP solely the authority to "propose" boundary lines and designated areas, and removing CHAP's authority to "designate" and "determine" what those areas are.

The Department of Housing and Community Development respectfully defers its position on City Council Bill 13-0189 to the Department of Planning.

PTG:nb

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Ms. Kaliopé Parthemos, *Deputy Mayor*



*Office to  
Planning*