



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE

PAUL T. GRAZIANO

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

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: May 7, 2014

Re: **City Council Bill 14 - 0353**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 14-0353, which was introduced for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property known as 1511 Ashburton Street (Block 2408, Lot 066) and no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

The property is located on the south side of the end of Ashburton Street, south of the intersection with Baker Street and is the site of the former Lillian M. Jackson School Building. The property was owned by the Baltimore City Public School System and when the school closed it became part of the Department of Housing and Community Development's inventory through the surplus process.

If City Council Bill 14-0353 is adopted it would allow HCD the authority to sell the vacant property through a competitive process. The competitive process would provide all interested parties an opportunity to submit offers and creative proposals for review to insure the highest and best use for redevelopment and compatibility with the neighborhood.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 14-0353.

PTG:sd

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

