


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	David E. Scott, P.E., Director	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	<b>CITY COUNCIL BILL 08-0236</b>		

DATE: February 12, 2009

**TO**

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

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 08-0236 introduced by Council President Rawlings Blake on behalf of the Administration (Department of Public Works).

The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in a certain parcel of land known as the former bed of Diamond Street, extending from Fayette Street, northerly 195.2 feet, more or less, and no longer needed for public use.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is developing graduate student housing on properties adjacent to and on either side of the 100 block of Diamond Street. UMB would like to close and purchase Diamond Street, from West Fayette Street to the south property line of 121 North Greene Street (south of Shad Alley), to provide control of and safe access to the newly constructed and renovated graduate student housing structures. UMB would allow southbound vehicular traffic to enter the closed portion of Diamond Street for access to a two-level parking garage. Walkways on either side of Diamond Street would be improved to provide safe access for pedestrians. Diamond Street would still be accessible by the public from West Lexington Street to Shad Alley. Shad Alley would continue to provide access to Diamond Street, from the end of the proposed closed portion of Diamond Street, west to Greene Street.

City Council Bill 08-0236 and companion legislation (City Council Bills 08-0234 and 08-0235), if approved, would open and close a portion of Diamond Street to public use and authorize its sale. City-owned utilities not to be abandoned or relocated will be subject to a full width perpetual easement, providing the City with access for maintenance and operational purposes.

Based on these findings, the Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 08-0236 provided the companion opening and closing ordinances are approved.

  
 David E. Scott, P.E.  
 Director

*F Comment*

DES/MMC:pat

Visit our Website @[www.baltimorecity.gov](http://www.baltimorecity.gov)

