



**BILL SYNOPSIS**

**Committee: Economic and Community Development**

**Bill: 22-0194**

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**Charles Village Community Benefits District and Management Authority**

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**Sponsor:** Councilmember Ramos

**Introduced:** February 7, 2022

**Purpose:**

For the purpose of renewing and continuing the Charles Village Community Benefits District and Management Authority; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the activities and authority of the Charles Village Community Benefits District and Management Authority.

**Effective:** The date of enacted.

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**Agency Reports**

City Solicitor	
Department of Housing and Community Development	
Department of Finance	

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## Analysis

### Current Law

Mayor and City Council Resolution Enactment 18-006 (Resolution 18-0186); Baltimore City Charter, Article II, Section 63; and Baltimore City Code Article 14, Section 6 (see attachment)

Baltimore City Code, § 6-16. 4-year reviews.

(a) Public hearings.

No later than 4 years after the enactment of this subtitle and every 4 years thereafter, the Mayor and City Council shall hold 1 or more public hearings to evaluate the activities and undertakings of the Authority and the District.

(b) Mayor and Council to decide.

At the conclusion of the hearings, the Mayor and City Council shall determine whether the District is to continue for another 4 years.

(c) Process to be repeated.

This process shall be repeated periodically to satisfy the requirements of the Enabling Legislation.

### Background

The Charles Village Benefits District (CVBD) was created in 1995 following the enactment of enabling legislation by the State of Maryland and the City of Baltimore and a referendum of greater Charles Village residents 1998.

The Mayor and City Council has continued the District and the Authority through June 30, 2022 via a series of enactments:

- Resolution 98-011
- Resolution 02-028,
- Ordinance 03-574
- Resolution 06-012
- Resolution 10-022
- Resolution 14-015, and
- Resolution 18-006

The District was created to help the neighborhood fight blight and crime, CVCBD is a special taxing district. Property owners pay a tax surcharge of 12.5 cents per \$100 of assessed property value to help fund CVBD services.

CVBD is a 100 square block area located in north central Baltimore City. Boundaries are generally 33<sup>rd</sup> Street on the north, 20<sup>th</sup> street on the south, North Howard Street on the West and Greenmount Avenue on the East (*see attachment*). There is a mixture of commercial and residential uses in the area.

CVBD has a population exceeding 11,000. There are also more than 800 businesses in the area. Four neighborhoods are located in the area: Abell, Charles Village, Harwood, and Old Goucher (and parts of two others: Remington and Barclay) and three business associations: North Charles Business Association, Old Goucher Business Alliance and Waverly Main Street.

CVBD is run by a management authority comprised of members of the community and local businesses. The purpose of the Authority is to promote and market the district, provide supplemental security and maintenance services, provide amenities in public areas, provide park and recreational programs and functions, and after its establishment, other services and functions as requested by the Authority and approved by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council.

In addition to providing supplemental sanitation and safety services, CVBD also supports community events, recreational activities and the development of amenities such as green spaces, and promotes the district as a good place to live, work and play. A full-time Executive Director manages the staff, programs and budget. A community-based Board of Directors of up to twenty-seven members (mostly volunteers) works with the Executive and governs the organization, monitoring its programs and finances. The City of Baltimore Board of Estimates reviews the CVBD's annual Financial Plan. The City Council reviews the CVBD's performance every four years and votes on whether or not to reauthorize it for another four years.

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### **Additional Information**

**Fiscal Note:** Not Available

**Information Source(s):** Bill 22-0194; Baltimore City Code

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