


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: October 9, 2008

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 08-0189 and 08-0190
City Streets – Opening and Closing – Brexton Street

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bills 08-0189 and 08-0190 ordinances concerning the opening and closing of Brexton Street. Brexton Street entails two blocks that is located entirely within Block 503, between Chase Street and Park Avenue near the northern terminus of Martin Luther King Boulevard in the Mount Vernon historic district and is bisected by Tyson Street.

The proposed street opening and closing will help facilitate the rehabilitation of a contributing historic multi-family building “The Brexton,” on a well-located but challenging site that is in close proximity to the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. The property has languished for twenty years, with several unsuccessful attempts at renovation. The Brexton was purchased by RWN Development Group, LLC in 2007 and is being converted into a 26-key boutique hotel.

There are no properties that front this short stretch of Brexton Street. Brexton Street is proposed to be closed to automobile traffic, but remain open to pedestrian passage (sidewalk). The closed street will provide much needed access space to accommodate hotel services, including screened trash enclosure and outdoor seating. The City of Baltimore benefits with increased revenues (property tax, hotel room tax) and decrease crime in the neighborhood. It is respectfully requested that Bill Nos. 08-0189 and 08-0190 is given favorable consideration by the City Council.

cc: Andrew Frank
Angela Gibson

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