

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council

c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: March 31, 2009

Re: City Council Bill 09-0284 Sanitation - "One Plus One" Collection

Program

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0284, which was introduced for the purpose of amending the City Code to enable the City's "One Plus One" Collection Program; defining and redefining certain terms; conforming varied provisions governing the handling, placement, and collection of trash, garbage, debris, and other mixed refuse; modifying the specifications for required receptacles; repealing certain obsolete provisions; modifying and conforming certain penalties; conforming, correcting, and clarifying related provisions; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the collection of mixed refuse and recyclable materials.

Under Article 23 of the Baltimore City Code, the Director of Public Works is required to collect mixed refuse twice during each week with the exception of holidays. Supplemental to the legally mandated garbage collection, the Department of Public Works (DPW) also collects recyclable materials twice a month. City Council Bill 09-0284 would provide DPW with the legislative authorization to fully implement the "One Plus One" program in which mixed refuse would be collected one day per week and then recyclables collected on another day in the same week.

In addition to altering the collection pattern, the proposed bill would permit citizens to place full receptacles out for collection after 8 P.M. on the evenings prior to the twice weekly pick up day or by 6 A.M. on the morning of service. This would facilitate the earlier collections times that DPW intends to implement to avoid interference with rush hour traffic. Further, the legislation amends provisions of the Property Maintenance Code to permit the option that the City will provide pre-approved receptacles to citizens.

DHCD's Housing Code Enforcement division will coordinate its efforts with DPW and other agencies in order to facilitate a smooth implementation of the new program. It is likely that this transition will increase demand on sanitation enforcement and put substantial pressure on our already significantly reduced

