

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 16-0685

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO DATE: June 20, 2016

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin
Room 400 – City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 16-0685 introduced by the Council President on behalf of the Administration (Department of Transportation).

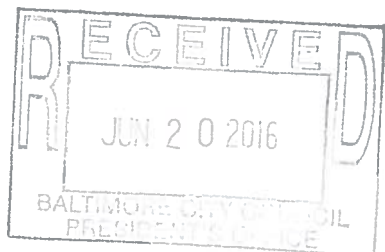
The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain parcels of land known as the former beds of Henneman Avenue, a 10-foot alley, and a 20-foot alley, bounded by East Biddle Street, North Wolfe Street, East Chase Street, and Rutland Avenue, and no longer needed for public use.

The block bounded by East Biddle Street, North Wolfe Street, East Chase Street and Rutland Avenue has within it the following street and alley beds:

- A portion of Henneman Avenue at mid-block running east and west, approximately 307 feet long and 28 feet wide;
- An approximately 20 foot wide by 307 foot long alley parallel and to the north of Henneman Avenue; and
- An approximately 10 foot wide by 307 foot long alley parallel and to the south of Henneman Avenue.

These rights-of-way are being opened and closed to public use under City Council Bills 16-0683 and 16-0684. This block is part of the EBDI development area. There is a plan to combine these former rights-of-way with other property for the creation of a 3 block long, 6 acre linear park in East Baltimore. This amenity would provide residents and visitors with recreational opportunities, a location for outdoor events and venues, and additional green space for the surrounding communities to enjoy. City Council Bill 16-0685 would grant the City authority to sell these former street and alley beds, allowing this project to go forward. Utility records show that public utilities are located in these rights-of-way that, if not abandoned or relocated, would require continued access for maintenance purposes.

Based on these findings, the Department of Public Works has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 16-0685 provided the companion legislation granting closure of the right-of-way is approved and that accommodation for any public utilities remaining in these areas are protected under full width perpetual easements.



Sincerely,

No obj
S. Dale Thompson for RC
Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director

RSC/MMC:ela