CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 10-0494 (First Reader)

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration (Department of Housing and Community Development)

Introduced and read first time: May 3, 2010 Assigned to: Urban Affairs and Aging Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, Planning Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Public Works, Baltimore Development Corporation, Baltimore City Parking Authority Board, Department of Transportation, Commission on Sustainability

A BILL ENTITLED

An Ordinance concerning	5		
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Urban Renewal – Annapolis Road – Renewal Area Designation and Renewal Plan

For the purpose of designating as a "Renewal Area" an area situated in Baltimore City, Maryland known as Annapolis Road, bounded generally by Indiana Avenue on the south, the alley in the rear of Sidney Avenue on the east, the Light Rail tracks on the north, and Tacoma Street/295 ROW on the west; approving a Renewal Plan for Annapolis Road; establishing the objectives of the Plan; establishing permitted land uses in the Renewal Area; providing that the provisions of the Zoning Code of Baltimore City apply to those properties in the Project Area; establishing rehabilitation and new construction standards; providing for a period of compliance with the rehabilitation and new construction standards; providing for review of all plans for new construction, exterior rehabilitation, or demolition of any property; providing for certain provisions necessary to meet the requirements of State and local laws; providing for the term of the Plan; establishing procedures for changes to the Plan; waiving certain content and procedural requirements; making the provisions of this Ordinance severable; providing for the application of this Ordinance in conjunction with certain other ordinances; and providing for a special effective date.

18 By authority of

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- 19 Article 13 Housing and Urban Renewal
- Section 2-6
- 21 Baltimore City Code
- 22 (Edition 2000)
- SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the area known as Annapolis Road, as more particularly described in Section 2, is established.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the Urban Renewal Plan for Annapolis Road is adopted to read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1 2	Urban Renewal Plan Annapolis Road
3	A. Project Description
4	1. Boundary Description
5	Beginning at the intersection of Indiana Street and Annapolis Road; thence
6	binding on the street centerline of Annapolis Road for ~800 feet to the
7	intersection with Kent Street; thence binding east on Kent Street ~135 feet to the
8	rear of 2251 Annapolis Road; thence binding north along the rear property line of
9	2251 Annapolis Road extended ~800 feet to the north side of 2119 Annapolis
10	Road; thence binding west along the north side of 2119 Annapolis Road ~270
11	feet, crossing Annapolis Road, binding to the north side of 2128 Annapolis Road
12	to the street centerline of the Tacoma Street-Annapolis Road Alley; thence
13	binding south on the street centerline of Tacoma Street-Annapolis Road Alley
14	~660 feet, crossing Russell Street to the north side of 2257 Tacoma Street; thence
15	binding west along the north side of 2257 Tacoma Street ~120 feet to the street
16	centerline of Tacoma Street; thence binding south along the centerline of Tacoma
17	Street ~250 feet to the south side of 2309 Tacoma Street; thence binding along the
18	south side of 2309 Tacoma Street ~120 feet to the rear property line of 2312
19	Annapolis Road; thus binding south along the rear property line of 2251
20	Annapolis Road extended ~400 feet to Maisel Street; thus binding south to the
21	rear property line of 2400 Annapolis Road ~250 feet; then heading east ~50 feet
22	to the to the point of beginning.
23	2. Plan Objectives
24	a. To bring about a general physical improvement along Annapolis Road in
25	Westport through the rehabilitation of existing buildings and promotion of
26	new, mixed use development to create a main street;
27	b. To eliminate deterioration and blight by repairing or replacing exterior
28	surfaces;
29	c. To increase the economic viability of the area through the increased health,
30	safety and attractiveness of properties;
31	d. To encourage harmonious redevelopment throughout the area;
32	e. To provide for a process of review of all plans for properties along Annapolis
33	Road to ensure harmonious and orderly rehabilitation and development.
34	B. Land Use Plan
35	1. Permitted Land Uses
36	Only the use categories shown on the Land Use Plan and Zoning Districts map,
37	Exhibit 1, shall be permitted within the project area. These are Office
38	Residential, Neighborhood Business, and Community Business. Accessory uses,
39	including landscaping and off-street parking and loading, will be permitted. In

1 2		addition, certain uses will be permitted to continue subject to the provisions governing non-conforming and noncomplying uses set forth in Sections B.1.d.
3		and B.1.e. below.
4		a. Neighborhood Business
5		In the area designated as Community Business on the Land Use Plan, uses are
6		limited to those uses permitted under the B-1 category of the Zoning Code of
7		Baltimore City.
8		b. Community Business
9		In the area designated as Community Business on the Land Use Plan, uses are
10		limited to those uses permitted under the B-2 category of the Zoning Code of
11		Baltimore City, except for the following, which are expressly prohibited:
12		adult bookstores
13		bail bonds offices
14		check cashing operations
15		community correction centers
16		dance halls
17		fraternity and sorority houses
18		garages, other than accessory, for storage, repair, and servicing of motor
19		vehicles
20		liquor stores—package goods
21		pawnshops
22		rooming houses for more than three persons
23		tattoo parlors as a principal or accessory use
24		taverns
25		c. Nonconforming Use
26		A nonconforming use is any lawfully existing use of a building, structure, or
27		of land that does not conform to the applicable use regulations of the district
28		in which it is located, according to the Zoning Code of Baltimore City. Non-
29		conforming uses are permitted to continue subject to the provisions of Title 13
30		titled "Nonconformance".
31		d. Noncomplying Structure
32		A noncomplying structure, as set forth in Title 13 of the Zoning Code, is any
33		lawfully existing structure that does not comply with the bulk regulations of
34		the zoning district in which it is located. These noncomplying structures shall
35		be permitted to continue subject to the provisions of Title 13.
36	2.	Zoning
37		All appropriate provisions of the Zoning Code of Baltimore City shall apply to
38		properties in the Area. Any zoning district changes, as designated on Exhibit 1,
30		Land Use Plan and Zoning Districts must be approved by Ordinance

1	C. Techniques Used to Achieve Plan Objectives
2	1. Rehabilitation and New Construction
3	Within the Project Area, any standards listed below that are above and beyond
4	those required by the Building Code do not apply to existing properties unless the
5	owner applies for permits for new construction or major rehabilitation of the
6	property. The Annapolis Road Rehabilitation Standards are as follows:
7	a. Windows
8	(1) Windows not visible from the street shall be kept properly repaired or,
9	with Fire Department approval, may be closed, in which case sills,
10	lintels and frames must be removed and the opening properly closed to
11	match the material, design and finish of the adjacent wall.
12	(2) All windows must be tight-fitting and have sashes of proper size and
13	design. Sashes with rotten wood, broken joints or loose mullions or
14	muntins must be replaced. All broken and missing windows and glass
15	blocks must be replaced with glass or other approved glazing. All
16	exposed wood must be repaired and painted.
17	(3) Window openings in upper floors of the front or sides of the building
18	facing streets may not be filled or boarded up. Windows in unused
19	areas of the upper floors may be backed by a solid surface on the
20	inside of the glass. Window panes may not be painted. Replacement
21 22	windows, frames, or sashes must fit existing or historic masonry openings.
23	b. Building Fronts and Sides Abutting Streets
. 4	(1) All defeative atmentional and decomption alamante of heilding fronts and
24	(1) All defective structural and decorative elements of building fronts and
25	sides abutting streets must be repaired or replaced in a workmanlike
26 27	manner to match as closely as possible the character of surrounding
	buildings and the neighborhood. All damaged, sagging, or otherwise
28	deteriorated store fronts, show windows, or entrances must be repaired
29	or replaced.
30	(2) All cornices, upper floor windows, and all other portions of a building
31	containing wood trim must be made structurally sound. Rotten or
32	weakened portions must be removed, repaired, or replaced to match as
33	closely as possible the buildings in that block. All exposed wood must
34	be painted or stained, or otherwise treated for protection.
35	(3) Store fronts
36	(a) A store front, as a part of the building facade, includes:
37	i. the building face, windows, and the entrance area leading to
38	the door;

1 2 3 4	ii. the door, sidelights, transoms, display platforms, and devices including lighting and signage designed to be viewed from the public right-of-way or visible to the public prior to entering the interior portion of the structure.
5 6 7 8 9	(b) Store front windows, entrances, signs, lighting, sun protection, security grilles, etc., must be compatible, harmonious, and consistent with the scale and character of the surrounding properties. All store front elements must be located below the second floor window sills.
10 11 12	(c) Solid or permanently enclosed or covered store fronts are not permitted. New storefronts must provide a minimum of 30% window openings.
13 14 15 16 17 18	(d) Enclosures and housings for security grilles and screens must be as inconspicuous as possible and compatible with other elements of the facade. All screens and grilles protecting entrances and store front windows must be constructed so they can be opened or removed. Screens and grilles must be opened or removed during the normal business hours of that business.
19 20 21	(e) No temporary or permanent sign affixed or placed against the inside surface of a store front window may exceed 25% of the area of that store front window.
22	(4) Awnings
23 24 25	(a) Soft awnings of appropriate material are encouraged over the first floor. They must be appropriately scaled and located to complement the building facade.
26 27 28	(b) Signage applied to awnings is restricted to business name or logo and street numbers. Lettering must be sized and located to complement the awning.
29 30	(c) Awning colors and lighting must complement the colors of the building facade.
31 32	(5) Adjoining buildings used by the same occupant must be rehabilitated in a unified and harmonious manner.
33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	(6) All exterior front or side walls that have not been wholly or partially resurfaced or built over must be repaired and cleaned or painted in an acceptable manner. Brick walls must be pointed where necessary. Painted masonry walls must have loose material removed and be painted a single color except for trim, which may be other colors. Day-glo and fluorescent colors are not permitted. Patched walls must match the existing adjacent surfaces as to materials, color, bond, and joining.

1 2 3 4		(7) Any applied facing material or resurfacing materials are not permitted on the front of the building. Examples are siding, formstone, stucco, or wood paneling. No brick facades shall be resurfaced with other materials.
5 6 7		(8) Existing miscellaneous elements on the building fronts, such as empty electrical or other conduits, unused sign brackets, etc., must be removed.
8	c.	Rear and Side Walls
9 10 11 12		Rear and side walls, whether new or existing, must be repaired and painted or cleaned and repainted to present a neat and fresh appearance. Walls must be painted to cover evenly all miscellaneous patched and filled areas or be stuccoed to present an even and uniform surface.
13	d.	Roofs
14 15 16 17 18		(1) Chimneys, elevator penthouses, or any other auxiliary structures on the roofs must be repaired and cleaned as required for rear and side walls. Any construction visible from the street or from other buildings must be finished so as to be consistent with other visible building walls.
19 20 21 22 23 24 25		(2) Any new mechanical equipment placed on a roof must be located so as to be hidden from view from the streets and to be as inconspicuous as possible from all viewpoints. New equipment must be screened with suitable elements of a permanent nature and finished so as to harmonize with the rest of the building. Where screening is infeasible, equipment must be installed in a neat, presentable manner and must be painted in such a manner as to minimize its visibility.
26 27		(3) Television and radio antennae must be located so as to be as inconspicuous as possible.
28 29 30		(4) Roofs must be kept free of trash, debris, or any other element that is not a permanent part of the building or a functioning element of its mechanical or electrical system.
31	e.	Auxiliary Structures
32 33 34		Structures at the rear of buildings, attached or unattached to the principal structure, that are structurally deficient, must be properly repaired or demolished.
35	f.	Rear Yards
36 37		Where a rear yard exists, the owner must condition the open area in one of two ways:
38		(1) Enclosure of yards:

1	A rear yard may be enclosed along side and rear property lines by
2	a finished masonry wall, wood or picket fence, or coated chain-
3	linked fence. Solid doors or solid gates may be used to the extent
4	necessary for access and delivery. Walls or fences may not be
5	more than 6 feet in height. Use of barbed wire or broken glass on
6	top of walls is not permitted.
7	(2) Provision of parking area:
8	An unenclosed rear yard may be used as a parking or loading area
9	if it is properly paved, illuminated, and maintained. A sign not
10	exceeding 6 square feet may be used to identify and control
11	parking and loading. The building occupant is responsible for
12	maintenance of the parking area in a neat and clean manner. No
13	storage of trash containers is allowed in this area, except when
14	housed in permanent structures of acceptable design.
15	g. Exterior Signs
1.6	(1) All lighting and electrical elements such as wires, conduits, innotion
16 17	(1) All lighting and electrical elements such as wires, conduits, junction boxes, transformers, ballasts, switches, and panel boxes must be
18	concealed from view as much as possible.
10	conceated from view as much as possible.
19	(2) One overhanging sign, up to 8 square feet in size, is permitted per
20	building. It may not project more than 4 feet from the building face.
21	The sign must be mounted lower than the second floor window sills or
22	13 feet above grade, whichever is lower. Discreet spotlighting is
23	permitted, but internal illumination and neon are prohibited.
24	(3) Flat signs must be placed parallel to the building face, may not project
25	more than 12 inches from the surface of the building, and may not
26	exceed in area 3 times the width in feet of the frontage of the building.
27	In the case of corner properties, each facade is to be calculated
28 29	separately as to size allowed for each. Flat signs must be placed no higher than the bottom of the second story window where windows
30	exist or 13 feet above grade level, whichever is lower.
30	exist of 13 feet above grade level, whichever is lower.
31	(4) Signs painted on vertical building surfaces or use of separate cutout
32	letters are permitted in accordance with the above limits for flat signs.
33	Existing signs may remain.
34	(5) Non-illuminated secondary signs are permitted for the tenants
35	occupying the upper floors of a building. These signs may not exceed
36	2 square feet in area, may not project more than one (1) inch beyond
37	the surface of the building, and may not be placed higher than 13 feet
38	above grade level.
20	(6) Roof ton signs signs above the personal of a building hillhoards or
39 40	(6) Roof top signs, signs above the parapet of a building, billboards, or outdoor advertising signs painted or mounted on structures other than
40	billboards are not permitted.
41	omodards are not permitted.

1 2		(7) Painted or inlaid signs on cloth awnings are permitted, as per subsection b.(4)(c) of this section.
3		(8) Flashing or moving signs other than barber poles are not permitted.
4 5 6 7		(9) All temporary signs, including streamers, banners, pennants, bunting, etc., are not permitted except as provided in this Plan or as otherwise authorized by the Department of Housing and Community Development for temporary purposes not exceeding 30 days.
8		(10) No free standing signs are permitted.
9	h.	Outdoor Seating
10 11 12 13 14 15 16		Outdoor table service, when accessory to a principal use, is a conditional use in the B-2 Zoning District requiring the review and approval of the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals (BMZA). A minor privilege permit may also be required. The BMZA has the authority to impose certain conditions for the approval of such seating. For the purposes of this Plan, the following guidelines and criteria must be used to evaluate all conditional use and minor privilege applications as to their conformance with the objectives of this Plan.
18 19 20 21		(1) A plan and elevation showing the layout and design of the seating area must be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of General Services along with all applications for permits.
22 23		(2) A 6-foot public walkway must be maintained, and all tables and chairs must be at sidewalk level.
24		(3) Sight lines to adjoining properties must be preserved.
25	i.	Walk-up Windows
26 27		Walk-up windows are not permitted unless otherwise authorized by the Department of Housing and Community Development.
28	j.	Screening of Private Parking Lots
29 30 31 32		If the parking area is greater than 4 spaces, the area must be effectively screened with fencing, landscaping or a combination thereof. Uncoated chain link fencing is not acceptable. The height of the screening must be between 2 and 4 feet.
33	k.	Period of Compliance
34 35 36 37		(1) After enactment of this Plan, no work, alterations, or improvements may be undertaken that do not conform to its requirements. However, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development ("The Commissioner") may waive compliance with one

1 2	or more of the standards if the waiver is determined by the Commissioner not to adversely affect the Plan objectives for
3	Annapolis Road.
4 5	(2) With regard to waiver decisions affecting business properties within the Plan's boundaries, the Commissioner may be advised by the
6	Westport Business Association or its successor. In making decisions
7	regarding the granting of waivers for residential properties within the
8 9	Plan's boundaries, the Commissioner may be advised by the appropriate neighborhood organizations in the area. All
10	recommendations to the Commissioner must be made within 30 days
11	of the filing of the waiver request with the Department of Housing and
12	Community Development.
13	(3) Nothing in the Plan may be construed to permit any sign, construction,
14	alteration, change, repair, use, or any other matter otherwise forbidden
15	or restricted or controlled by any other public law.
16	(4) Any person violating the provisions of this Plan is subject to a fine to
17	be determined by the Commissioner, and each day's violation
18	constitutes a separate offense.
19	1. Design Review and Approval
20	(1) Designs for all building improvements, modifications, repair,
21	rehabilitation, or painting concerning the exterior of the existing
22	buildings, their yards, their store fronts, or their outside seating, and
23 24	for all signs and awnings, must be submitted to the Director of the Department of Planning and the Commissioner of the Department of
25	Housing and Community Development, and issuance of a permit by
26	the Department of Housing and Community Development is required
27	before proceeding with the work.
28	(2) The Commissioner or his/her designee may submit to the Westport
29	Business Association, or its successor or assignee, for its review and
30	comment, the plans for any storefront property not to be acquired. The
31	Westport Business Association, or its successor or assignee, must
32 33	advise the Department of its recommendation regarding the acceptability and/or priority of all plans and proposals. The written
34	comments must be transmitted to the Department no later than 30 days
35	after the proposals and/or plans have been transmitted to the Westport
36	Business Association, or its successor or assignee; otherwise it is
37	presumed that the proposals/plans are acceptable. The Commissioner
38	retains the final authority to approve or disapprove all plans and to
39	grant or withhold development priorities.
40	(3) The Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community
41	Development and the Director of the Department of Planning shall be
42	concerned with all aspects of the designs affecting exterior appearance
43	and in particular with the following:

1 2	 (a) Design of porch front or store front and entrance area, including choice of materials and types of security devices;
3 4	(b) Design of signs, methods of illumination, colors, materials, methods of suspension;
5	(c) Conditioning of rear yard spaces; location of delivery signs;
6	(d) Design of awnings, canopies, and outside seating;
7	(e) All other exterior materials and colors; and
8 9	(f) Compatibility of new construction as to scale, color, materials, and signing.
10 11 12 13 14	(4) The Commissioner's review must be guided by the property rehabilitation standards which, in general, provide that the original design of buildings must be retained or restored, and that new elements must be harmonious with existing elements of the same property and with adjacent properties.
15	2. New Construction
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	All plans for new construction on any property within the project area must be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of Planning for review, which may include presentations before the Department's Urban Design and Architectural Review Panel. Upon finding that the proposed plans are consistent with the objectives of the Urban Renewal Plan, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development must authorize the processing of the plans for issuance of a building permit. The provisions of this section are in addition to, and not in lieu of, all other applicable laws and ordinances relating to new construction.
25	The minimum building height for new construction is 20 feet.
26	3. Demolition
27 28 29 30 31	All applications for demolition permits shall be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development for review and approval. If the proposed demolition is found to be consistent with the objectives of the Urban Renewal Plan, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development shall authorize the issuance of the necessary permit.
32	D. Other Provisions Necessary to Meet Requirements of State and Local Laws
33 34 35 36 37	1. In selling or otherwise disposing of property in Annapolis Road, the Department of Housing and Community Development must require that developers agree in writing not to discriminate in the sale, lease, use, or occupancy of the property developed by them against any person on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, or national origin.

1		2. If the Annapolis Road Urban Renewal Plan fails to meet the statutory
2		requirements for the content of a renewal plan or for the procedures for the
3		preparation, adoption, and approval of a renewal plan, those requirements are
4		waived, and the Urban Renewal Plan is exempted from them.
5		3. If a provision of this Urban Renewal Plan concerns the same subject as a
6		provision of any zoning, building, electrical, plumbing, health, fire, or safety law
7		or regulation, the applicable provisions must be construed to give effect to each.
8		However, if the provisions are found to be in irreconcilable conflict, the one that
9		establishes the higher standard for the protection of the public health and safety
10		prevails. If a provision of this Urban Renewal Plan is found to be in conflict with
11		an existing provision of any other law or regulation that establishes a lower
12		standard for the protection of the public health and safety, the provision of this
13		Urban Renewal Plan prevails, and the other conflicting provision is repealed to
14		the extent of the conflict.
15	E.	Duration of Provisions and Requirements
16		The Annapolis Road Urban Renewal Plan, as it may be amended from time to time,
17		shall be in effect for a period of 10 years following the date of original adoption by
18		the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.
19	F.	Procedures for Changes in Approved Plan
20		1. The Urban Renewal Plan may be amended from time to time, upon compliance
21		with the requirements of law, provided that, prior to the passage of any ordinance
22		amending the Urban Renewal Plan, a public hearing is held.
23		2. The Department of Housing and Community Development must submit to the
24		Westport Business Association, or its successor, for its review and comments, all
25		proposed amendments presented to the City Planning Commission by the
26		Department of Housing and Community Development. Written comments must
27		be submitted to the Department no later than 30 days after the amendments have
28		been submitted to the Westport Business Association, or its successor; otherwise,
29		it is presumed the proposed changes are satisfactory. Prior to the passage of any
30		ordinance amending the urban renewal plan, a public hearing must be held and
31		the Westport Business Association, or its successor, must receive written notice,
32		at least 10 days before the hearing, of the time and place of the hearing.
33	G.	Separability
34		In the event it be judicially determined that any word, phrase, clause, sentence,
35		paragraph, section or part in or of this Plan, or the application thereof to any person or
36		circumstances is invalid, the remaining provisions and the application of such
37		provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby, it being
38		hereby declared that the remaining provision of this Plan without the word, phrase,
39		clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part, or the application thereof, so held invalid
10		would have been adopted and approved.
11		ON 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the Urban Renewal Plan for Annapolis
12	Road, idei	ntified as "Urban Renewal Plan, Annapolis Road", including Exhibit 1, "Land Use/

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1	Zoning", dated September 3, 2009, is approved, and the Clerk of the City Council is directed to
2	file a copy of the Renewal Plan with the Department of Legislative Reference as a permanent
3	public record and to make the same available for public inspection and information.

- **SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That if the amended Urban Renewal Plan approved by this Ordinance in any way fails to meet the statutory requirements for the content of a renewal plan or for the procedures for the preparation, adoption, and approval of a renewal plan, those requirements are waived and the amended Urban Renewal Plan approved by this Ordinance is exempted from them.
- **SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That if any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect any other provision or any other application of this Ordinance, and for this purpose the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.
- **SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That if a provision of this Ordinance concerns the same subject as a provision of any zoning, building, electrical, plumbing, health, fire, or safety law or regulation, the applicable provisions shall be construed to give effect to each. However, if the provisions are found to be in irreconcilable conflict, the one that establishes the higher standard for the protection of the public health and safety prevails. If a provision of this Ordinance is found to be in conflict with an existing provision of any other law or regulation that establishes a lower standard for the protection of the public health and safety, the provision of this Ordinance prevails and the other conflicting provision is repealed to the extent of the conflict.
- **SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is enacted.