


MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: February 1, 2010

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 10-0434
Stormwater Management

City Council Bill 10-0434, Stormwater Management, enumerates the City's plan to meet the State requirement to implement new stormwater management regulations by May 2010. The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) understands that the City of Baltimore is required to promulgate this bill in response to state regulations, and can support the bill provided that: (1) appropriate "grandfathering" is included to allow "shovel ready" projects to move forward based on approved Master Stormwater Plans, and (2) the City maintains the compliance flexibility that appears to be contemplated in the bill as drafted without the amendments called for by the Maryland Department of the Environment.

While steps certainly need to be taken to protect the Chesapeake Bay and our other water resources, it is important that the City provide as many avenues as possible for flexibility in these regulations. These regulations will certainly pose difficulties for development projects in the City, where historically many buildings were constructed over most, if not all, of the available land on the property, leaving no pervious surface. As a result, our local built environment creates challenges for implementing effective and affordable stormwater management solutions. As a result, the ability to utilize alternative practices will be critical for both redevelopment and new projects.

cc: Andrew Frank
Angela Gibson

sandra.gladden/ccbill10/10-0434


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